



Several children help Governor Bill Anoatubby, tribal legislators and administrators cut the ribbon on the new Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center in Ada.

Marcy Gray

Child Development Center dedicated; Johnston building open

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw Nation officials celebrated progress in education programs as they cut the ribbon on a unique child development center and an education administration building. Ribbon cuttings were conducted May 14 at the Child Development Center, 224 Rosedale Road, and the adjacent Douglas H. Johnston Building.

Each room in the 26,700 square-foot Child Development Center is modeled on a familiar building, including a fire station, movie theater, post office and candy store. Familiar nursery rhyme themes - "London Bridge," "Jack and Jill" and "The Old Woman That Lived in a Shoe," are echoed in murals throughout the facility.

"This is much more than a day care center, it is a learning center" said Gov. Bill Anoatubby.

"This center was designed based on the idea that imagination is a natural and important part of the learning and development process. Our goal is to inspire the imagination and make learning fun."

Other unique features include large indoor play areas and entrance via a playground slide. Storm shelters are integrated into the facility. Hallways are designed to resemble small-town streets, complete with street signs in the Chickasaw language.

"We developed every aspect of this center with children and parents in mind," said Lisa John, Administrator of the tribal Division of Education. "This is a place where children will be excited to learn and parents will know that

SEE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, PAGE 2

Inter-Tribal Council focus on 2010 Census, historic records

GOLDSBY, Okla. - Issues related to the 2010 Census, tribal sovereignty and federal funding were major topics of discussion during the May 21-22 meeting of the Inter-tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes at Riverwind Casino in Goldsby.

The council passed a resolution objecting to state recognition of tribes and recommending that Congress only provide funding to federally-recognized tribes. Other resolutions dealt with the Johnson-

O'Malley program and a plan to move historic records of the Five Tribes.

The council recommended that each of the Five Tribes retrieve and retain records currently kept in the federal records center in Fort Worth, Texas. Those records are scheduled to be moved to a storage facility in Kansas where tribes would have little or no access to the records.

In this first meeting of the council since its recent reorga-

SEE INTER-TRIBAL, PAGE 2

'Chief's Challenge' winners



Tishomingo District Legislator Scott Colbert represents the Chickasaw Nation as he accepts the "Chief's Challenge" trophy and Pendleton blanket from the Tulsa Powwow Princess and Day-Ohn-Day 5k Run officials on May 23 in Tulsa. Almost 100 Chickasaw citizens and employees participated in the "Chief's Challenge." The Chickasaw Nation won the challenge by having the most people in the run. See story and photos, page 36.

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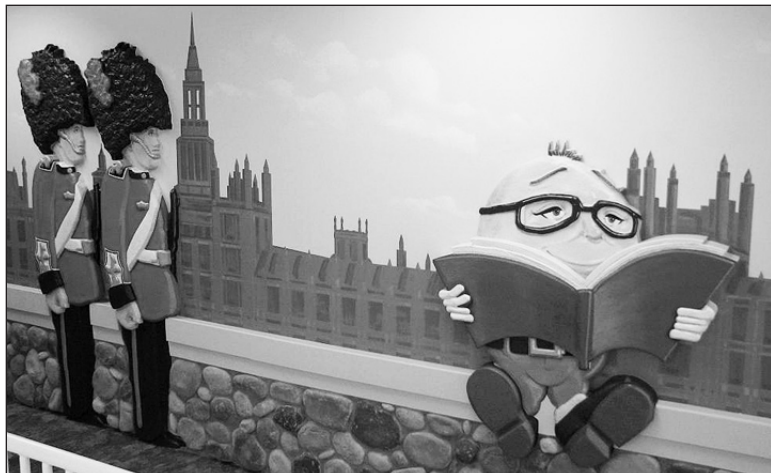


Head Start Graduations page 22.

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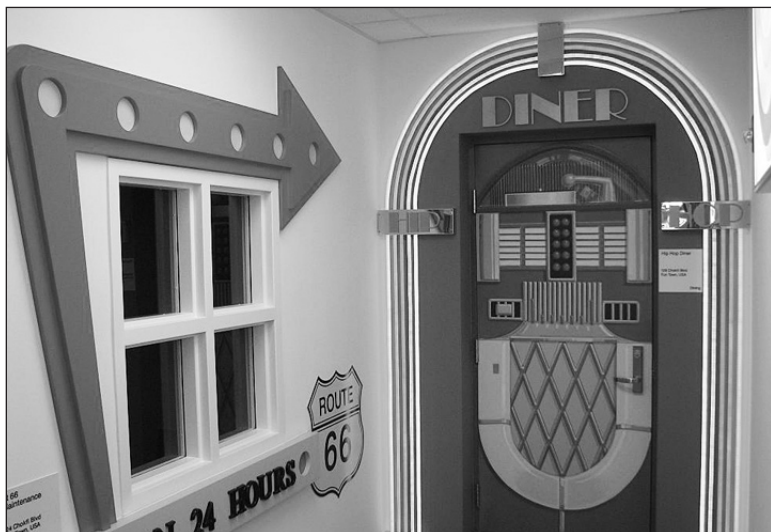
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The interior of the Child Development Center is "kid friendly."

Marcy Gray



INTER-TRIBAL | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nization, work groups met and returned recommendations to the leaders of the Five Tribes for consideration.

A number of work groups indicated that educating tribal members about the importance of the 2010 U.S. Census should be a priority. Funding for many tribal programs is based on the U.S. Census figures. Recent changes enabling respondents to indicate more than one race on Census forms could have an impact on federal funding of tribal programs.

The Communications work group supported

tribal participation in the 2010 World Creativity Forum in Oklahoma.

The Social Services work group recommended support for establishing community-based assisted living facilities.

The chief executives of the Five Tribes are to consider a number of other recommendations from work groups on culture, housing, health, education, economic development and self governance.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

their children are in a safe, nurturing environment."

SMART boards have been integrated into the center to give children an early introduction to computer technology. A SMART board serves as a giant computer touch screen used to display interactive web sites, educational software and games complete with live animation.

Students can control the computer applications directly from the white board, using a device similar to a marker to identify letters, numbers, colors and shapes. They can also spell words, work math problems and do more advanced hands-on learning activities.

"SMART boards fit into the overall theme of encouraging children to learn through hands-on activities," said Mrs. John. "This facility engages all the senses and helps children explore and understand the world while building confidence

in a secure surrounding."

With a staff of more than 60 childcare professionals, the center will provide year-round care to approximately 250 children ranging in age from six weeks to five years.

A ribbon cutting for the Douglas H. Johnston Education Administration Building was conducted immediately following at 10 a.m.

Johnston served as governor of the Chickasaw Nation for more than 40 years.

"Governor Johnston was a long-time advocate of education for the Chickasaw people," said Gov. Anoatubby. "We will work together to continue his vision."

The Douglas H. Johnston Building houses the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education, which includes Child Care, Head Start and Vocational Rehabilitation departments, among others.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.



At left, former tribal legislator and current Chickasaw Nation Health System administrator Dr. Judy Goforth Parker pauses next to the "Piggy Bank & Trust" building facade inside the new Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center. Above, Rose Jefferson and Geneva Holman prepare to sing Choctaw hymns during the dedication of the new Child Development Center.

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

D-Day + 65 years: Sacrifices made for freedom not forgotten

On Memorial Day, the flags flutter, the bands play and the parades go by. This one day each year we honor the millions of American veterans who have defended our country.

After the parades, the salutes and the recognition, Americans most often return to their daily business. We are a country of busy people, and people must return to their work.

But for many veterans, those days in service to our country become memories that are with them every day. Our veterans remember not only on Memorial Day, but each and every day of the year.

There is another special anniversary in June that some of our Chickasaw veterans recall vividly. It was 65 years ago, on June 6, 1944, that the U.S., Britain, Canada and other smaller forces joined together in the largest military amphibious invasion in history.

June 6, 2009 marks the 65th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Europe.

The invasion force of over 6,500 ships, 11,500 aircraft and 160,000 men – including many Chickasaw and

grit and determination of the American and Allied soldiers. To read and view the actual landings, it is

other Indian soldiers – made the trip across the English Channel and landed at Omaha, Utah, Gold, Juno and Sword beaches on the coast of Normandy, France.

The sacrifices these men made on that day, and the days that followed, were enormous – and enormously important. Without a successful invasion of Europe, there was no hope of finally defeating Nazi Germany. The Germans knew this and had fortified the coastline of occupied France in hopes of turning back the invasion on the beaches.

The landings were successful because the American and Allied forces struck Normandy, which was not where the Germans expected the attack. Additionally, the weather had turned bad on June 4 and 5 and the Germans thought it would not be a good time to attack.

However, the most important reason the invasion succeeded was the

now hard to imagine how primitive and brutal the situation was. The men came ashore in landing craft that featured a large front gate. When the craft came aground, the wide front gate flung open and the men poured out.

Of course, the enemy gunners knew what was happening and directed their fire as the gates flew open.

Official estimates count 2,500 Allied soldiers killed on the beaches that day and another 10,000 wounded or missing. But the operation was a success and the Americans and Allies battled inland. The war would end in less than one year and freedom was restored to the world.

Although it was 65 years ago, for the veterans who experienced D-Day, it could have happened last week. The memories of the sacrifices, the comrades wounded or lost, are still fresh, and still significant.

It is important for us to recall that our veterans deserve our respect and admiration every day of the year. They are represented not just by a single holiday, but by all the freedoms we enjoy each day in our country.

On this 65th anniversary of D-Day, let's take time to study the event, and to give thanks for the men who fought so we might be free.



**GOV. BILL
ANOATUBBY**

Governor,
the Chickasaw
Nation

Laura Stewart's 'Fittstown' art featured in tribal office gallery



Chickasaw Nation Arts in Education Director Laura Stewart with her painting "Fittstown Snowfall." This painting and several others are a part of a temporary exhibit by Ms. Stewart at the Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities office, 124 E. 14th Street in Ada.

Marcy Gray

An exhibit featuring the art of Chickasaw Nation Arts in Education director Laura Stewart is now on display at the Arts and Humanities offices, 124 East 14th Street in Ada, Okla.

This is the inaugural show for the office gallery. The gallery will serve as an outlet for patrons to come and experience the art of the citizens

and employees of the Chickasaw Nation.

"There is just so much talent among our employees and citizens," said tribal Arts and Humanities Administrator Lona Barrick. "We wanted to provide a steady place where this art can be showcased."

Ms. Stewart's exhibit is entitled "Reflections of Fittstown" and is a series of scenes

from her time living in rural Fittstown, Okla.

For the former art teacher, the oil paintings, linocut prints and silkscreen prints in the series reflect advice she gave to students.

"You don't have to travel to see amazing things to paint," she said. "Paint what you know. Paint what's familiar."

Many of the scenes featured in the artwork were discovered right out of Ms. Stewart's back door and while running along country roads.

"The area is about the water, the land and its people," she said. "It tells a story of everyday life in a small community."

Scheduled for the next exhibit is the artwork of Chickasaw Nation art instructors Trina Jones and Eric Hardison.

For more information about the gallery and upcoming exhibits, contact Marcus Milligan, Coordinator of Exhibits and Galleries at (580) 272-5520 or marcus.milligan@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Deadline for nominations is July 10

Chickasaw women eligible for 'Dynamic Woman of the Year'

The deadline for "Dynamic Woman of the Year" nominations is July 10, 2009. All nominations and supporting documentation must be turned in to the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities by 5 p.m.

Established in 2006, the award honors Chickasaw women who have made significant contributions to the tribe, served as role models to other Chickasaw women and who have made a difference in the lives of Chickasaws and other citizens, enriching their communities and society at large.

The Dynamic Woman of the Year award salutes the contributions made to improving and enhancing the lives of others. It also recognizes professional accomplishments and dedication to preserving the cultural heritage of the Chickasaw Nation.

Only Chickasaw women of at least 35 years of age, with proof of citizenship through Chickasaw Nation Citizenship documentation or Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)

are eligible. Women currently serving as Chickasaw elected officials or in appointed executive branch positions are not eligible.

Women considered for this award are distinguished and are pioneers in their professional fields; have championed other women and women's issues; and who exemplify and uphold Chickasaw values, culture and traditions.

The honoree will receive her award at the Chickasaw Arts and Culture Awards Ceremony, celebrated during the 2009 Chickasaw Annual Meeting and Festival.

Nomination forms are available at www.chickasaw.net. For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.



Tim Francis, professional art installer, and Marcus Milligan, Chickasaw Nation Coordinator of Exhibits and Galleries, align a painting by Mike Larsen at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The painting was installed on the Capitol's ground floor on May 7, 2009.

Mike McKee

Larsen painting in State Capitol

An original landscape painting by Chickasaw artist Mike Larsen was recently hung in the ground-floor rotunda area of the Oklahoma State Capitol.

Amber Sharples, Visual Arts Director of the Oklahoma Arts Council, said Mr. Larsen's work was an appropriate choice to adorn the Capitol.

"Mike Larsen's paintings are a visual reference in which the viewer can appreciate not only art, but also the culture of Oklahoma," she said.

The piece features a fiery Oklahoma sunrise over the Cimarron River.

In September of 2006, Mr. Larsen's painting was chosen as the image on Oklahoma's Centennial postage stamp.

It then went on display at the

Oklahoma Governor's Mansion for one year before being moved to the Capitol.

Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry said the painting effectively captured the essence of Oklahoma.

"It represents the spirit of how positive and bright things are in this state," Gov. Henry said.

Mr. Larsen's art can be seen throughout the Capitol and in the Governor's Mansion.

Possibly the most well-known is his mural "Flight of Spirit," a tribute to five Native American ballet dancers. The mural is permanently displayed on the fourth floor rotunda.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Tribal Boys & Girls Club kids spend day on the course learning with pros

THACKERVILLE, Okla. - More than two dozen youth from the Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Clubs recently had the opportunity to learn golf tips from professional golfers at WinStar Golf course, at Thackerville.

Four professional golfers, A.J. Elgert and Alex Carper, of Lincoln, Neb.; Seth Murphy, Athens, Texas; and Reino Deetlefs, Fort Worth, Texas, volunteered to led 28 boys and girls from Sulphur and Tishomingo, Okla., through the links.

The golf clinic was conducted May 11 in conjunction with the WinStar World Casino Golf Championship. The championship featured a Pro-am tournament, which benefited the Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Clubs.

The quartet of golfers said they began playing the game at a young age and all hoped to inspire young people to adopt the game.

"It's great to give the kids the opportunity to learn a sport like golf," Elgert said. "It teaches integrity, because you are your own official."

"If this is what we can do to help out, offer our time and experience, then we will gladly volunteer."

It was evident all the boys and girls enjoyed the golf clinic, which emphasized putting and chipping.

For many of the kids, it was their first time on a golf course.

"I have never been on a golf course before," said Trenton Valle, of Tishomingo.

Others had been to a golf course, but were impressed with the tribally-owned course, which is located on the banks of the Red River.

"This is a huge golf course," said Shelby Smith, of Tishomingo.

The Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club, Inc., is part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Clubs are located in Chickasha, Sulphur and

Tishomingo, Okla.

Each year, hundreds of school-age children benefit from the Club's After-School and summer programs.

Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club offers programs in character, leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, arts, sports, fitness and recreation. The mission of the club is to promote and enhance the character development of boys and girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and power through life-enhancing programs.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.



Hunter Eaves, Sulphur, takes his shot under the watchful eye of golf pro Seth Murphy.

Marcy Gray

K9 officer enjoys professionalism of Lighthorse operation

Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse officer Clint Sutton serves in several capacities in his position with the tribal police.

The Ada patrolman is a K9 officer, a member of the Lighthorse Dive team, SWAT team and recently spent two weeks working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation for the Pine Ridge Peacekeeping Operation.

"That is an experience that I will not forget, it was great to assist another agency," he said.

Sutton's partner is a four-month-old German

Shepherd named Lena. Lena and officer Sutton are nationally certified to detect explosives, track suspects and victims and apprehend suspects when alleged



Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Office Officer Clint Sutton.

felony is occurring.

Sutton started his service with Lighthorse in 2007. Prior to working at LPD, he worked for the District 22 Drug Task Force, which covers Hughes, Seminole, and Pontotoc counties. He began his career in law enforcement in 2002 at the Pontotoc County (OK) Sheriff's Office.

He credits the late sheriff Jeff Glase for giving him the opportunity to work in law enforcement.

"I like law enforcement, and I have never regretted the decision to try working in it," he said.

Throughout his time in law enforce-

ment, Sutton has completed courses in narcotics, clandestine labs, Council on Law Enforcement Education (CLEET), Thunder Ranch Urban Assault rifle school, and numerous continuing education classes.

"My most memorable moment was the two weeks at NARC Assault School, which was held at Camp Gruber (Okla.)," he said. "We conducted tactical rappelling from helicopters and conducted land navigation operations to marijuana fields."

Sutton also attended East Central University.

He said he enjoys working at Lighthorse Police and with the Chickasaw Nation.

"I like working for Lighthorse because of the professionalism the officers and administration," he said. "I enjoy the people I work with and enjoy working for the Chickasaw Nation. Training and continuing education is very important in law enforcement and

the Chickasaw Nation gives you the opportunity and encourages its employees to do so."

He also enjoys working within the Chickasaw Nation.

"It gives you the chance to work with other departments and sheriff's offices," he said. "We have a great thing going with our cross-deputization agreements being able to work with departments and assisting them. When I was a deputy I loved to see Lighthorse or another agency show up on a dangerous call. You can never have enough police officers."

"The object is to keep everyone safe."

In his off time, Sutton likes to spend time with his two daughters, Ashlyn, eight, and Kadyn, two, and his wife of 10 years, Brooke. His hobbies include spending time with his family, playing sports, fishing, and weightlifting.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Making a difference for women, children

Tribal Violence Prevention group helps strengthen anti-abuse laws in Oklahoma



From left, Shelly Williams, Senator Susan Paddack, Teresa Morgan, Karen Gaddis, Stephanie Luker and Janie Tingle.

Oklahoma legislators recently passed two bills which will provide greater protection for victims of domestic violence. The Chickasaw Nation Office of Violence Prevention and several other members of the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and

Sexual Assault supported the legislation.

On April 15, the Office of Violence Prevention was recognized on the Senate and House of Representatives floor to advocate for the passage of the new legislation and to bring awareness about domestic violence in Oklahoma.

"Our goal is to have all victims and their families to be able to live in an environment free from domestic abuse," said Karen Gaddis, Chickasaw Nation Program Manager. "(This) was an opportunity for us to show our support by advocating to change laws that will enable victims to be better protected by the legal system."

House Bill 1892 (HB 1892) amended language in a criminal statute which sometimes allowed abusers to escape prosecution based on the technical definition of strangulation. That language was clarified in a manner which will make it easier to successfully prosecute violent offenders.

Senate Bill 894 (SB 894) requires health care professionals to provide law enforcement agencies copies of the results of the examination, and any other clinical notes, X-rays, photographs, or records relevant to prosecuting a reported case of domestic violence.

The new law sets forth mandatory reporting procedures, to law enforcement, for health care professionals in cases concerning child abuse and sexual assault

or domestic violence when requested by a person over 18. It also requires health care professional to refer victims to victim services.

"The day at the capitol was a big success," Gaddis said. "It helped bring awareness about domestic violence to the Oklahoma legislature and aided in gaining passage of House Bill 1892 and Senate Bill 894 through the Senate."

The new laws were approved by Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry and will become effective November 1, 2009.

The Chickasaw Nation office of Violence Prevention offers victims of domestic abuse 24-hour shelter for victims and their families, victim advocate services, food, clothing, tribal and social service referrals, transportation, career development skills, support groups, counseling, and relocation services.

"We aim to provide wrap-around services because many victims of domestic abuse have been exiled from friends, family, and access to money, which would allow them to leave," Gaddis said. "Bringing awareness of programs and service is essential because it allows victims a way out of the abusive relationship and a hope they may not otherwise have."

For additional information or enrollment in programs and services, contact the Office of Violence Prevention 580-272-5550 231 Seabrook Rd. Ada, Okla. For emergency help contact Lighthorse Police 580-436-9022, local police 911, or the Oklahoma Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-522-SAFE (7233).

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw activist visits Jordan on cultural peace initiative



While in Jordan, Lorie Robins had the opportunity to visit many ancient and Biblical sites. Pictured above is Ms. Robins in the city of Jerash.

For Lorie Robins, Chickasaw storyteller and Humanities and Literary Arts assistant, traveling through Jordan wasn't always pleasant.

"There were a few children that would see that we were American and spit at our bus as it passed," she said.

"But that's why we were there," she said, "to tear down walls between different cultures."

As a member of People to People International

(PTPI), Ms. Robins had the opportunity to spend 12 days in Amman, Jordan and the surrounding areas.

Her trip was a part of PTPI's Global Peace Initiative, which promotes peace through understanding among peoples of all nations and religions. The initiative allows professionals to travel across the world and promote tolerance through learning.

For the most part, Ms. Robins said, the citizens of Jordan were supportive of America and were excited to meet her.

"The trip was incredibly eye-opening," she said. "The country wasn't at all like it is portrayed on TV."

A highlight of her trip was planting a Peace Tree in Amman with Vatican representative Father Nabil Haddad and Mary Jean Eisenhower, granddaughter of U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower.

The planting of the Peace Tree is a part of the Global Peace Initiative and represents everlasting peace and friendship around the globe.

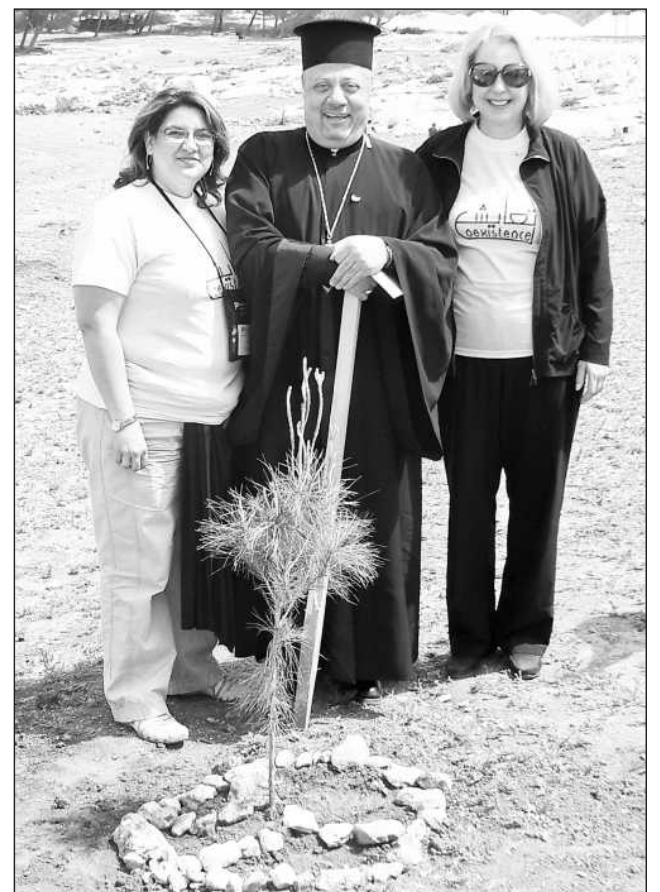
"It changed my life," Ms. Robins said. "It really altered my whole outlook on how I give myself to people."

The most emotional part of her trip, she said, was visiting Biblical landmark Bethany Beyond the Jordan, where Jesus was baptized.

"I had read about it in the Bible," she said, "but to actually stand there with it in front of me was absolutely breathtaking."

Using the knowledge gained while in Jordan to educate others about tolerance and understanding of other cultures is now a priority for Ms. Robins.

"Stereotypes and differences in religion and culture might set groups of people apart," she said. "But in the



Lorie Robins, Chickasaw Storyteller, joins Father Nabil Haddad and Mary Jean Eisenhower in planting a Peace Tree in Amman, Jordan. Robins recently journeyed to the country to promote peace and understanding.

end, we are all more alike than we are different."

Ms. Robins plans to return to Jordan with PTPI's Global Peace Initiative in 2011.

"I can't wait to get back," she said.

For more information about People to People International, visit www.ptpi.org.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Father's support, your support led to success

Fifteen years ago, I began a journey that turned out to be one of the most delightful adventures I could have ever imagined. I was given the opportunity to serve the Chickasaw Nation as a Legislator in Pontotoc District, Seat 2. This month, I will step down from that position to assume a leadership of the Chickasaw Nation Health System as administrator.

Ironically, my first official duty as a legislator was to attend the ceremonial passing of the keys from Indian Health Service to the Chickasaw Nation when we assumed responsibility for running our own health system. Under the leadership of Mr. Bill

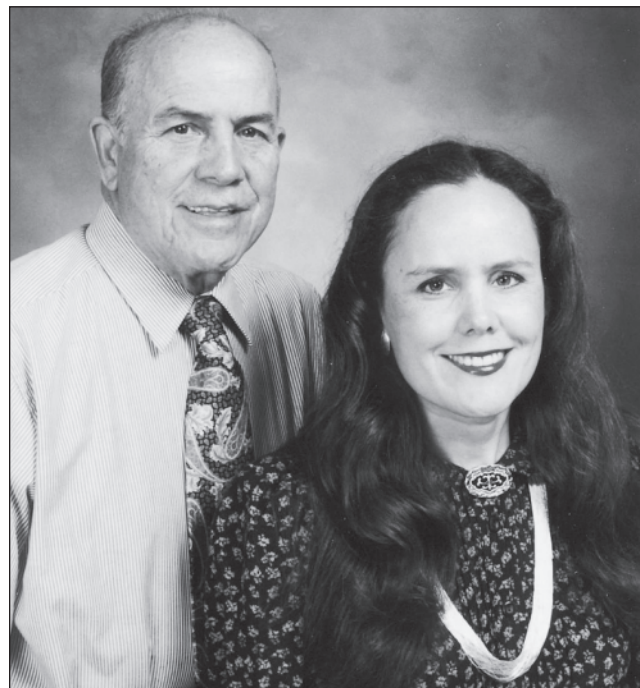
Lance, our health system has grown into one of the most forward thinking the highly achieving health care systems in Indian country. I have some pretty big shoes to fill, and I feel confident that Bill will continue to work with me as I transition into this role

My father and I are pictured in this last Legislative article with one of my early day campaign photos. My father went to be with the Lord three years ago. He was always my watcher during my campaigns. I am sure that he is watching over my shoulder even now as I begin this new adventure.

Thank you all for your support, and for your continued support. I will work to serve the Chickasaw Nation in this new capacity and look forward

to meeting your health care needs in the future. You are the Unconquered and Unconquerable Chickasaw Nation.

Judy Goforth Parker
Chickasaw Legislator
Pontotoc District
Seat 2



Monthly minutes help provide citizen insight

Legislative minutes. Where do they come from? What are they for? As I was reviewing last month's publication of *the Chickasaw Times* it occurred to me that many of you may not fully understand the monthly Legislative minutes. According to Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, regular sessions of the Tribal Legislature shall be held on the third Friday of each month.....Section 5 states that roll call votes shall be recorded, showing how each member of the Tribal Legislature voted. These results are documented in official minutes of the monthly Legislative Sessions. The minutes are

then published in *the Times* for citizens to read. I know you will agree that reading through them is a tedious task but VERY IMPORTANT. How else will you know what we, your Legislative Branch of the Chickasaw Government has enacted? Remember, the Legislative Branch is the law making branch of the Chickasaw Nation. The published minutes, provide a record of how your elected officials voted on a variety of issues. For example last month, General Resolution 26-038 an amendment of the Developmental Budget for the Winstar Golf Course was approved by the Tribal Legislature in the amount of \$3,751,000.00. It passed with

a vote of 10 yes and 1 no. Expanding the existing 18 hole course by an additional 9 holes will cost \$3,751,000.00. Explanations of why we vote yes or no are not provided in the minutes. You would have to contact the individual to find that out. So the next time you see Legislative minutes, I hope you will take the time to review them.

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21

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**BETH
ALEXANDER**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Elections upcoming; be sure to be involved

Hello Everyone,
It is Time for Chickasaw elections!
This year, we have the opportunity to elect our representatives to the Chickasaw legislative and the Chickasaw judicial branches.

In the legislature, Pontotoc District, seats #1 and #2 are up for election. In the Pickens District, seat #1 and #4 are slated for elections and in the Tishomingo District, seat #1 is up for election. In the judicial branch, Supreme Court seat #2 is up for election. This is an opportunity to ensure that we have separate functioning branches of government.

Independent branches of government ensure that we, the Chickasaw people, are best served by our government. To ensure we have independent branches of government, know the candidates. As in all types of elections, the most reliable sources of information are individuals that you know and trust. Talk to family and friends, evaluate even their suggestions and make your selection.

To ensure your vote is counted, verify that your correct address is on file with the Chickasaw Election Commission by contacting Rita Loder election secretary toll free at 1-888-661-0137. Sometimes people move and believe that

by updating their address at the post office, their address change will be automatically done at the Chickasaw Election Commission. That is not the case, address changes have to be specifically reported to the election commission.

Be politically active. Vote! Today, voting and encouraging others to vote are the only real opportunities we have to influence our government.

Respectfully,
Katie

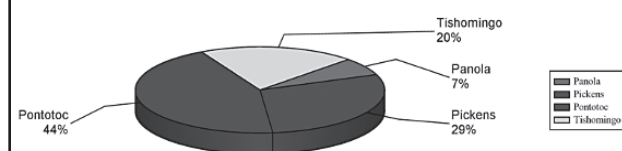


**KATIE
CASE**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Count of Voters by District

Panola	1,608	Pontotoc	10,628
Pickens	6,977	Tishomingo	4,820
		24,033	



Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free
1-866-466-1481.

Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop

1005 Chamber Loop, Ada, OK
(580) 436-1007

SW jewelry, dream catchers, caps and lots of Chickasaw items. Shop the Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop for all your gift giving items!

As Land chairman, a commitment to serve citizens responsibly

It is truly a tremendous experience to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature.

As a legislator, my job is to represent your interests as citizens and to ensure that we are staying on the right track when it comes to operations, programs and services, and much more.

It is a terrific honor and responsibility that I now assume the post of chairman of the legislative Land Development Committee. This committee chairmanship became vacant when former chairman, Dr. Judy Goforth-Parker, was named our new administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Health System.



**DAVID
WOERZ**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Dr. Parker did a very good and very workmanlike job as chairman of the Land Development Committee. I have some big shoes to fill. However, I believe I learned a lot about the Land Development Committee, its workings and its responsibilities with Dr. Parker's leadership.

The Land Development Committee is, I believe, of tremendous importance to you – the Chickasaw citizen – because it deals with our land base, our expansion and our judicious use of our resources. The committee studies and makes recommendations on land purchases and leases. It also works on the real “bricks and mortar” projects – the buildings, senior

sites, offices and other facilities that are so important to our people.

The Land Development Committee must balance the needs of the citizens – you – with the availability of resources and the proper stewardship of those resources.

I am dedicated to representing the Chickasaw people well on the committee and promoting those essential and needed lands and buildings that will serve all the people fully and well. I am also dedicated to “watching the buck” and analyzing our development projects carefully before committing valuable funds.

It's a balancing act, but it is one that has a clear mission – serve the Chickasaw people well.

I am incredibly pleased to be entrusted with the responsibility of the chairmanship of the Land Development Committee and I pledge to do a good job for you.

Help us update our military list!

The Chickasaw Nation is updating the military database for those on active duty and stationed away from home.

If you know of a Chickasaw in the service whom you would like to add to the list or update their address, please contact Joy Barrick in the public affairs department at (580) 310-6451 or email joy.barrick@chickasaw.net.

New physicians join our Health System

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! After almost three weeks of rain, we are blessed to see the sun again. Everything is growing like gang busters now.

The Health Care Committee met May 4 with Health Administrator Bill Lance. Judy Goforth Parker also attended her last Committee meeting as a Legislator. Dr. Parker assumes the duties of Health Administrator on June 1. She has promised to continue the tradition of monthly reports to the Committee.

Mr. Lance reported that 80% of the exterior walls of the new hospital are now in place. He also gave us news of several physicians. Optometrist Dr. Mark Gibson will be at the Purcell Clinic twice a week. Dr. Stephen Franken of the Dean McGee Eye Clinic in Oklahoma City will be at Carl Albert Hospital twice a month to help treat diabetic retinopathy. Dr. Augustin Shi in the emergency room will be joining the internal medicine staff until Dr. Jerry Morgan comes on board June 29. Dr. Morgan recently retired from private practice in Ada and we are very fortunate to get a doctor with his qualifications. On a sad note, Dr. Syed, a psychiatrist, has completed his internship at Carl Albert and will be leaving us. A local doctor will be filling in while we search for a replacement.

The Durant Clinic is to be enlarged by the Choctaw Nation. The addition will contain more exam rooms, which are sorely needed. The Durant Clinic serves all Native Americans in the Durant area.

We are happy to report that a Chickasaw, Kevin Meeks, has been installed as the Director of the Indian Health Service. Director Meeks was born and raised in Byng, near Ada. His parents and siblings still live in the area. Congratulations Director Meeks!

Reminder - the toll free number to get on the Dental Clinic waiting list is 1.800.851.9136.

The Health System provided the following statistics: for the month of April, 2009, there were 212 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 21,654. April Emergency Room visits were 1,233. March saw 275 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,744 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 1,835 patients in April. The Ardmore Clinic saw 3,475 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,007. The Durant Clinic saw 2,938 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 2,453 in April. For the first quarter of 2009, the Health System has treated 97,910 patients.

Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. I would love to hear from you. Please contact me through my email address mary.green@chickasaw.net or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. My articles are also located on the web site. Until next month, thank you.



**MARY JO
GREEN**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

Education, health care and that great Chickasaw spirit!

Should you read my column in *the Times* on a regular basis, you no doubt understand the great emphasis I place on quality educational opportunities for Chickasaws.

I am a strong supporter of investing resources in learning for Chickasaws, regardless of their age or where they live. I believe in starting our children out strong with Head Start, book and clothing grants, necessary supplies and proper motivation. I believe in tutoring and advanced curriculum for our more accomplished students.

You know I fundamentally believe in opportunity for Chickasaws. If a citizen has a good education,

whether it be from a college or university, a trade school, a technical school or other institution, I believe in helping Chickasaws get ahead in life!

It is also critically important to provide the best quality health care available for Chickasaws. We simply cannot achieve our goals in life if we cannot maintain our health. When we become ill, or suffer from some chronic condition, we need professional medical help to get back on the right track.

I am a strong supporter of our new tribal medical center. We will offer the very best there, and that is as it should be.

I also believe in reaching out to our citizens who cannot come to our hospital. Our

clinics, our CHR program and our other outreach programs are incredibly important. It is also important that we continue to work toward assisting with health care services for our citizens who live outside our traditional boundaries. This is an aggressive and complicated project, but one that deserves our attention if we are to be truly successful.

I am also a strong supporter of our Chickasaw entrepreneurial spirit. We have so many Chickasaws who have developed, or are developing, good ideas that turn into very good businesses. That is the Chickasaw – and the American – way.

We offer programs that support our entrepreneurs, and we can do more. It is important that we support our men and women who are willing to really commit to a good idea, and bring that idea to the market.

As your legislator, it is my commitment to engage the tribe's strengths and match them up so they help citizens the most. It is not always an easy task because the needs change, and the resources move to where they are needed, just not always at the same time!

We are now part of a very large and economically growing tribe. I can promise you I will keep my eye on the ball and do what it takes to help Chickasaws make great lives!



**WANDA
BLACKWOOD
TIPPIT SCOTT**

Chickasaw
Tribal
Legislature

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Chickasaw Nation Legislative Finance Committee will hold a public hearing regarding the Consolidated Tribal Budget for 2010 on June 25, 2009, at the David Stout Building, 520 Arlington, Ada, Oklahoma, beginning at 7:00 p.m. A summary of the proposed budget is provided along with this announcement. Any Chickasaw citizen may address the Finance Committee at the hearings; provided, the citizen may speak only if he has notified Committee Chair Holly Easterling in writing of his desire to speak and provides an agenda. A citizen may speak

for up to 10 minutes. Chickasaw citizens may also present written comments, recommendations, information or questions at those meetings, provided, those written comments are presented to Committee Chair Holly Easterling prior to the hearing's commencement.

The meetings shall be held in accordance with Title 10, Section 10-205 and following of the Chickasaw Nation Code. The Chickasaw Nation Code can be located at www.Chickasaw.net.

THE CHICKASAW NATION
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENTAL BUDGET
For the Year ended September 30, 2010

Category	Amount	Amount
BUDGET REQUEST		
Tribal Budget		
Tribal Budget	\$2,729,000	\$2,729,000
General Fund		
Legislative Department	1,076,000	
Judicial Department	1,154,000	
Executive Department	103,847,000	
Election Commission	366,000	
Gaming Commission	3,555,000	
Tax Commission	1,000	
Wildlife Commission	1,000	
		110,000,000
TOTAL BUDGET (FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION)		<u><u>\$112,729,000</u></u>

THE CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL ELECTION
2009 PRIMARY ELECTION SCHEDULE

June 1-3: Candidate filing period (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary’s office)	July 7: After 12 p.m. candidates may pick up updated labels, printouts, & CD’s.
June 5: Challenge to Candidacy ends at 5 p.m.	July 13: Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.
June 8: Drawing for position on the ballot (1:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary’s office)	July 22: Last day to appoint a watcher.
Candidates may pick up labels, printouts, & CD’s.	July 28: 2009 Primary Election (<i>last day to return ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.</i>)
June 9: Last day to submit photo & biography to “Chickasaw Times” (<i>by 12 noon</i>)	Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.
Press release for candidates (news/media)	Unofficial results posted immediately
June 29: Ballots mailed to voters who reside out of the contiguous 48 states	Press Release made to public.
July 6: Voter registration closes.	July 28: Voter registration re-opens, <i>if no run-off election.</i>
	July 31: Recount period ends.
	October 1: Oath of Office Ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

THE CHICKASAW NATION
2009 RUN-OFF ELECTION SCHEDULE (IF NEEDED)

August 3: Candidates may pick up labels, printouts, & CD’s (<i>after 12:00 p.m.</i>)	<i>turn ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.)</i>
August 10: Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.	Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.
August 19: Last day to appoint a watcher for the run-off election.	Unofficial results posted immediately
August 25: 2009 Run-Off Election (<i>last day to re-</i>	Press Release made to public.
	Voter registration re-opens
	August 28: Recount period ends.
	October 1: Oath of Office ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

Court Advocate services now available for tribal citizens

Court Advocate Services are now available in Ardmore, Ada, and Purcell to assist Native Americans with their legal problems. To make an appointment call 1-800-479-1459. This is a service provided by the tribal court system.

Chickasaw student's patriotism essay one of country's best

A Chickasaw student's essay on patriotism in America was recently selected a top winner of the third annual Reconnecting The Circle National High School Essay Contest.

Elizabeth M. Rule, a senior at Shippenburg Area Senior High School, Shippensburg, Pa., was one of eight students awarded \$2,500 in the 2008-09 contest.

High school students across the U.S. were encouraged to explore the topic, "Why is it important to understand patriotism in Indian Country?"

In her submission, Elizabeth wrote, "The importance of patriotism...represents unity, identity, and the reconnection of the circle...Despite the countless differences that exist between the members of my community, I know that we are united in our pride as Americans.

My tribe is commonly referred to as 'Unconquered and Unconquerable'; however, the truth of this saying extends beyond the Chickasaw Nation when the entire country is united through patriotism."

A team of seven reviewers scored the essays against a criteria matrix consisting of originality and creativity, relevance to topic, grammar and structure. The top finalists' essays were then submitted to four judges for final selection. The judges were Robert Cook, Oglala Lakota - president, National Indian Education Association; Robin Butterfield, Winnebago & Ojibwe - senior liaison, Minority Community Outreach, National Education Association; Kara Briggs, Yakama & Snohomish - journalist and founder, Red Hummingbird Media Cor-



Elizabeth M. Rule

poration; Kimberly Yellow Robe, Sicangu Lakota - regional American Indian public affairs specialist, Social Security Administration. RTC's sponsors include the Chickasaw Nation, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Trillium Asset Management, Walden Asset Management, Paul W. Critchlow, Gary Janetti, and Eric Krock.

RTC's partners are the National Indian Education Association, National Congress of American Indians, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country.

The mission of Reconnecting The Circle, Inc., a non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation, is to encourage people to learn about Native American people and

cultures, and to develop a more meaningful and complete perspective on Indian Country. RTC launched its annual National High School Essay Contest in 2006. High school students (grades 9-12) from tribal, public, private and parochial schools throughout all 50 states are invited to participate.

For more information about this initiative and future programs, please contact Danielle Gaines at info@reconnectingthecircle.com <<mailto:info@reconnectingthecircle.com>> . You can also visit the website at www.reconnectingthecircle.com <<http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=53162314&msgid=651014&act=EX25&c=320431&admin=0&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.reconnectingthecircle.com>> .

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Tribal business net income averaging \$23m y-t-d

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government cap- tion includes the tribe's gen- eral fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/ or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the busi- nesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mis- sion of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, in- clude motor fuel settlement funds and investment in- come. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, trav- el plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. Gen- eral government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, Chickasaw Times and governor's and lt. governor's offices. Expendi- ture for education includes education scholarship as

well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, pre- scription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming opera- tion of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending April 30, 2009

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled \$89.0 million year-to-date. Expendi- tures were \$4.7 million for the month and \$41.7 million year- to-date. There has been a total, beginning in fiscal year 2004, of \$114.0 million transferred from the businesses that were reserved for capital projects.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming priz- es for April totaled \$70 million and \$490 million year-to-date. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was \$20 million for the month and \$163 million year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Govern- ment for capital projects and tribal program operations the net income was \$52.9 million year-to-date. The net income

includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At April 30, 2009, the tribal government funds had \$121 million in cash and invest- ments. Of this amount, \$16.3 million is in the BIA Trust

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For the Seven Months Ended April 30, 2009

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues			
Transfers from businesses to tribal government	\$ 7,402,014	490,296,991	497,699,005
Total funds available	81,603,659	(81,603,659)	0
	89,005,673	408,693,332	497,699,005
Expenditures			
General government	5,300,784		5,300,784
Legislature	975,894		975,894
Judiciary	456,325		456,325
Education	7,762,574		7,762,574
Heritage Preservation	2,994,586		2,994,586
Health	8,349,426		8,349,426
Youth and Family Services	4,291,728		4,291,728
Nutrition Programs	2,175,130		2,175,130
Regulatory	3,245,274		3,245,274
Assistance Programs	6,239,490		6,239,490
Transfer to Loan Program	-		-
Gaming expense		269,253,510	269,253,510
Other businesses' expense		86,463,070	86,463,070
Total expenditures	41,791,213	355,716,580	397,507,793
Increase in net assets	47,214,460	52,976,752	100,191,213
Beginning net assets	291,985,959	412,240,077	704,226,036
Ending net assets	\$ 339,200,419	465,216,829	804,417,249

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Net Assets April 30, 2009

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	\$ 121,211,206	160,160,370	281,371,576
Receivables	538,085	34,848,754	35,386,839
Inventory		5,960,786	5,960,786
Prepaid expenses		12,117,374	12,117,374
Other Assets		44,548,967	44,548,967
Fixed assets	217,952,400	387,824,005	605,776,405
Less payables	(501,272)	(180,243,426)	(180,744,698)
Net Assets	\$ 339,200,419	465,216,829	804,417,249

Learning the value of perseverance

Apihchi Ikbi students learn value of servant leadership



State Representative Lisa Billy, a Chickasaw citizen, front row, left, hosted members of Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi (Youth Leadership Chickasaw) at the Oklahoma State Capitol, May 20. The group witnessed state government first hand and met with members of the Native American caucus, First row, from left, Rep. Billy, Morgan Hennigan, Patricia Cornish, Kelsie Sweat, and Tana Alexander. Second Row, from left, Jared Alexander, Bridgette Bell, Patrick Ferris, Devin Lyon, Caleb McDonald, Maegan Bridgman, and Rep. Shane Jett. Third Row, from left, Codie Bolin, Chance Brown, Micah Hart, Aaron John, tribal Youth Leadership Coordinator Tonya Bierce and Desiree Lyon. Fourth Row, from left, tribal Youth Specialists Kevin Tiger and Shannon Brown, Laura Ash, tribal Youth Specialists Melissa Wilkerson, Seth Tinsley, and Ashlee Palmer, and Rep T.W. Shannon, Chickasaw citizen.

Mike McKee

Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi (Youth Leadership Chickasaw) members learned how to become extraordinary leaders during the May 9 session, conducted in Ada, Okla.

Carol Naberhouse, an instructor from Pontotoc Technology Center, taught the group of high school students tips on basic communication, building relationships and creating a positive energy in the session entitled "Extra Ordinary Leaders."

Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi member Gi Gi Bridgman, a freshman from Marlow, Okla., said she plans to use the skills she learned during the year-long program in the future.

Bridgman, who is a cousin of the late Pearl Carter Scott, said she hopes to help orphan children in Africa find homes when she finishes her education.

The life of her cousin, the late Chickasaw aviatrix Pearl Carter Scott, inspires her.

"She is my inspiration, that pushes me to fulfill my dreams," she said.

Jay Keel, Chickasaw Nation Division of Youth and Family administrator, praised the

group for its perseverance with the program. The group meets one Saturday a month to learn leadership traits and study other topics and has also worked on many community service projects.

Mr. Keel also stressed the importance of servant-leadership and character.

"You are called upon as a leader due to perseverance," he said. "Perseverance builds character and gives hope."

Mr. Keel said Chickasaw people are known for their perseverance and know the tribe's influence is world-wide.

"We're leading, we're influencing, we're encouraging, not just across the Chickasaw nation or town, but the Chickasaw Nation reaches across the globe, he said.

"What happens now and where you go from here is up to you."

The group's next meeting is June 13 in Ada.

For more information about the Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi program, contact Tonya Bierce, youth leadership coordinator at (580) 310-6620.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

State government part of tour

Members of Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi spent a day learning more about state government and history during a trip to Oklahoma State capitol and other attractions last month.

The group of students toured the capitol, the Oklahoma Governor's mansion and the Oklahoma City National Memorial during the one-day trip.

A highlight of the day was lunch with State Representative Lisa Billy, R-Purcell.

Billy, a Chickasaw, shared her experiences with the group.

Several members of the Native American Caucus also spoke to the group, including, Rep. T.W. Shannon, a Chickasaw citizen; and Reps. Jerry McPeak, Dr. Mike Reitz and Dr. Doug Cox.

Billy said the luncheon was rewarding for the law makers as well as the students.

"They inspired us with their aspirations for the future."

"I am extremely grateful the Chickasaw Nation has the foresight to design the leadership opportunity for high school students. It was my pleasure to organize the members of the Native American Caucus to visit and encourage the next generation of leaders."

Chikashsha Apihchi Ikbi member Patrick Farris, Connerville, said meeting the Native American law makers was the highlight of the trip.

"Rep. Billy's talk was inspiring. I also didn't realize the length of the (legislative) session is only 90-days, the trip gave me insight on what our lawmakers do."

The day was topped off with a trip to the Redhawks Baseball Park where the group watched game three of the Big 12 Baseball Championship, where the Missouri Tigers beat the Texas A&M Aggies.

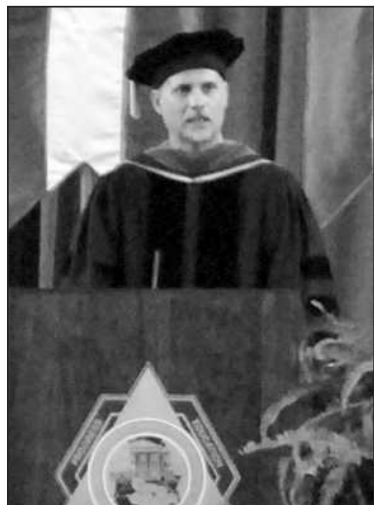


Connerville senior art class

Kennie Justice of the Chickasaw Nation Senior Center in Connerville works on a pastel of Turner Falls during a Chickasaw Senior Site Art Class May 20. The class was sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation Department of Arts in Education and taught by art instructor Eric Hardison. Also pictured are Wanda Justice, Dorothy Holt and Betty Griffith.

Oncologist Dr. Jonathan Trent, of M.D. Anderson, is 1988 SOSU graduate

Chickasaw physician delivers SOSU keynote address



DURANT, Okla. – Chickasaw citizen Dr. Jonathan Trent served as the keynote speaker at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Spring Commencement, May 16 at Bloomer Sullivan Gymnasium in Durant.

Dr. Trent, a Southeastern alumnus, encouraged the graduates follow their passions, work hard, identify their talents, and emulate the success of others to achieve success as professionals.

Dr. Trent has achieved phenomenal success since earning his bachelor's degree in chemistry from SOSU in 1988.

He is now an assistant professor of medicine in the Department of Sarcoma Medical Oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

M.D. Anderson Cancer Center was rated the number one hospital for cancer care by *U.S. News and World Report* in 2008.

Dr. Trent is on the cutting edge of cancer research at the hospital, combining the role of

researcher, doctor and teacher at the prestigious facility.

Sarcoma are tumors that effect bones or soft tissues. Patients who typically have no other therapy options or doctors who are willing to treat them, come to M.D. Anderson to participate in clinic trials led by Dr. Trent.

He also teaches medical students about conducting research on human subjects, including ethical and safety issues.

Dr. Trent is the son of Jonathan C. Trent and the great-grandson of Chickasaw original enrollee Sophie Edna Franklin. Many of Dr. Trent's family also attended SOSU.

"This is where I spent my formative years," Dr. Trent said.

While at SOSU, Dr. Trent was a Parsons Scholar. The Parsons Scholars program was established in 1978 by Dr. David L. Parsons, who earned a bachelor's degree from Southeastern in 1928 before going on to earn a doctorate from the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. Parsons believed the best and brightest students should have the opportunity to continue their educations at SOSU. He also believed these students should have scholarly experiences which challenge them to become leaders in our society.

Dr. Trent was also active in the Student Government Association, was named to the President's Honor Roll, and received the American Institute

of Chemists Outstanding Senior Student Award in 1988.

He went on to earn an M.D. and holds a doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

He was born in Atoka, Okla., and graduated from Midwest City (OK) High School.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

SOSU Graduates

The following Chickasaw citizens received degrees from Southeastern Oklahoma State University Saturday, May 16.

Joshua Wayne Dufur, Durant, Okla.; Erica Page Foster, Denison, Texas; Ray Allen Hoedebeck, Ardmore, Okla.; Ashley Lynn Lollis, Madill, Okla.; Joshura Elwin Ned, Howe, Texas; Tera Patricia Puckett, Krugerville, Texas; Benton Cole Timpanaro, Denison, Texas; Joseph Don Wallace, Madill, Okla.; Joshua Adrian Bell, Durant; Teara Jan Finley, Tulsa, Okla.; Adrienne Nicole Jensen, Durant; Kyle Daniel Mitchell, Broken Bow, Okla.; Joshua Neal Pooler, Lake Kiowa, Texas; Kayleigh Nicole Starnes, Durant; Teresa Dean Stofel, Marietta, Okla.; Kevin Lynn Gill, Ardmore; Nickolas Wallace, White Hall, Arkansas.

Chickasaw citizen Dr. Jonathan Trent served as keynote speaker at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Spring Commencement May 16 in Durant, Okla. Dr. Trent is a 1988 graduate of Southeastern and is assistant professor of medicine in the Department of Sarcoma Medical Oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



At left, the "baby bus" in on the move! Young kids from the new tribal Child Development Center head back to their classroom following the building dedication ceremony. Above, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, along with tribal legislators Wanda Scott, center, and Mary Jo Green enjoy the happy occasion as they prepare to cut the ribbon on the new Douglas Johnston Education Building.

BIRTHDAYS



Pauline Walker

Happy 89th Birthday to "Granny" Pauline Walker. Mrs. Walker celebrated her 89th birthday May 6, 2009.

You are so special to all of us.

Our love and blessing for you always.

Love,

Your children and all your grandchildren



Matthew Atteberry

Matthew Atteberry celebrated his 11th birthday May 7, 2009 at his home in Kingswood, Texas with his family and friends. Matt was excited about his birthday and spending his last few days in elementary school and looking forward to middle school.

He is the son of Robb and Dana Atteberry. He is the grandson of Jean Haddock, the great-grandson of Louise Haddock, and the great-great-grandson of Winnie L. Blocker, an original enrollee.



Chloe Miller

Chloe Ella Grace Miller celebrated her fifth birthday with a Little Mermaid theme party on March 8, 2009 at Wintersmith Park, at Ada, Okla., with family and friends.

Chloe is my angel. She is so loving and caring. She loves her family, especially her Nana. I'm so proud of her. She loves playing outside on her four-wheeler.

Chloe graduated from the Chickasaw Nation Ada Head Start on May 19. We want to thank Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Lynch and the teacher's assistant.

I love her so much!

Love,

Mom

Emerson Family Reunion

Sunday, June 14, 2009

Mill Creek School,
Mill Creek, Okla.

Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m.

Bring your favorite covered dish and lots of memories.

For more information contact Teresa Bolin at (580) 504-6844.

CHICKASAW STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Elizabeth Wilson

Chickasaw elementary student receives Star Reading Award

Elizabeth Wilson is a student at Anadarko (OK) Public Schools.

She recently received several awards including Principal's Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance, Outstanding Reading Award, Achievement in Reading and a Star Reading Award for reading over 25 books.

Elizabeth has been very active with the Girl Scout troop, her church choir, and in softball in Chickasha, Okla., where she lives with her family. Elizabeth's mother is Renee Wilson who works at the Duncan Office with the Office of Violence Prevention.

on the Principal's Honor Roll. He has been active this year with the Boy Scouts of America with the rank of Second Class Scout and his church's youth program.

Matthew has won a Superior Rating with his duet at the Marlow Band Festival with his trumpet and received a medal for his achievement. Matthew has also participated and scored well at the local Science Fair.

Matthew's mother is Renee Wilson who works at the Duncan Office with the Office of Violence Prevention.



Michelle Kellner

Salt River rising senior selected for American Legion Girls' State

Chickasaw student Michelle Kellner, of Scottsdale, Ariz., has been selected as Salt River High School's delegate to the American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls' State.

Girls' State is a youth seminar on Americanism and government, providing leadership training for women after their junior years in high school. It provides an opportunity for them to live as self-governing citizens, and teaches them about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

Arizona state government is studied and practiced throughout the week of participation.

Girls' State is conducted on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Michelle is the daughter of Shanon L. Shaw and Anthony Brooks.



Matthew Wilson

Chickasaw student on honor roll, active in Boy Scouts, band

Matthew Wilson is a student at Chickasha (OK) Public Schools.

He is a student of the Gifted and Talented Program and is

BIRTHS



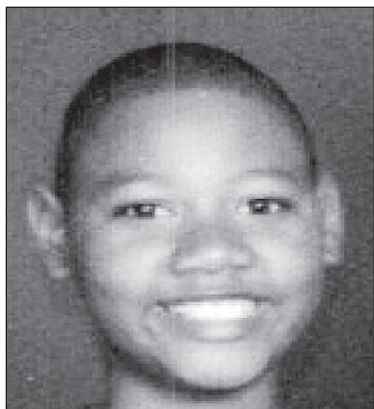
Chris, Jessica and Cade Carpenter

Chris and Jessica Carpenter, of Broken Arrow, Okla., announce the birth of a son, Cade Neal Carpenter. Cade was born at 9:17 p.m., March 26, 2009, at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches at birth.

Grandparents are Don and Dex Carpenter, of Ada, Okla.,

and Rob and Jodi Marshall, of Tyler, Texas. Great-grandparents are the late Don Carpenter Sr., Sue and Glen Burke, of Durant, Okla., Joe Thompson, of Norman, Okla., Ed and Dian Stewart, of Pollack, La., Robert Marshall Sr., of Forest Hill, La., the late Bob Mundy and the late Elaine Thompson.

CHICKASAW STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Matthew Pickens

Chickasaw student selected 'Student of the Month' in Ardmore

Matthew Sherman Pickens is a fifth grade graduate from Charles Evans School, Ardmore, Okla.

Matthew was named Student of the Month twice. Congratulations Matthew!

He is the son of Craig and Alayne Pickens. He is the grandson of Daphne Brown, Sherman Pickens, Arlene Brown and Kenneth Archie.



Christina Gilliland

Indiana University rising sophomore honored as Founders Scholar

A Chickasaw student has recently been honored following completion of her first year at the University of Indiana.

Christina Allison Gilliland was one of the Founders Scholars named during the Honors Convocation on March 29 in Bloomington, Ind. Founders Scholars have achieved grade

point averages of at least 3.8 on a 4.0 scale.

Ms. Gilliland is a member of three national honor societies, Alpha Lambda Delta, Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Sigma Theta.

Ms. Gilliland is active in community service. She spent her spring break in Biloxi, Miss., working on a hurricane relief effort with Youth Advocating Leadership and Learning (Y'All).

Y'All is an IU student organization established in 2005 in response to Hurricane Katrina. The Spring Break 2009 students helped with demolition of ruined homes, dry walling, painting and cleaning up.

Ms. Gilliland received a Chickasaw Nation Millennium Scholarship and attributes her academic success to being able to focus on her studies instead of full-time work.

Thank you!



Conner Hamilton

Chickasaw student graduates fifth grade at Homer Elementary

Conner Hamilton completed the fifth grade at Homer Elementary School, Ada, Okla.

Conner is the son of Dana Williamson. He is the grandson of Clay and Maxene Williamson, of Ada.

He is the great-grandson of Cuma Bond, of Ada., and Armond and Hattie Williamson, of Sulphur, Okla.

Congratulations Conner!

Chickasaw earns lacrosse scholarship



Tucker Nickols (number 33)

A Chickasaw lacrosse player has earned a scholarship to play in college.

Tucker Nickols, a lacrosse midfielder for Coppell (TX) High School, will this fall attend Fontebone University in St. Louis. He has accepted an athletic scholarship from Fontebone to play college lacrosse.

Chickasaw IT specialist honored at OU



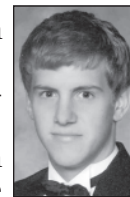
Pictured with Robert Kelly, center, are OU compliance officer Michael Goodwin, and OU President David Boren.

A Chickasaw information technology specialist has recently been honored by the University of Oklahoma.

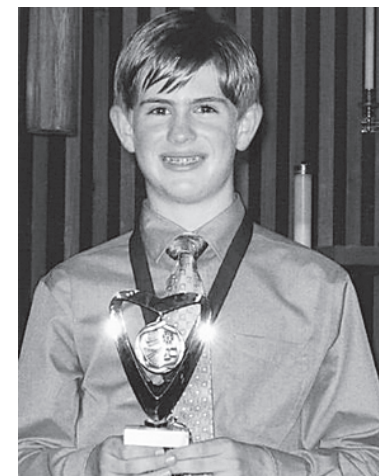
Robert Kelly, manager of information technology for the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost of the University, was honored with a Distinguished Performance Award. The award was presented to Mr. Kelly by University president David Boren and OU compliance officer Michael

Tucker's team won the Division 2 Texas State Championship.

Tucker is the son of Rusty and Stacie Nickols, of Coppell and the grandson of Glenn Norris and Jo Anne Alexander, of Edmond, Okla.



Tucker Nickols



Caleb Carter

Chickasaw sixth-grader 'Best of Show' at fair

A Chickasaw sixth-grader recently entered his science project in a regional science fair and took home the "Best of Show" award.

Caleb Carter, of St. John's Episcopal School, Abilene, Texas, won "Best of Show" at the regional science fair in Wimberly, Texas. Students in fourth-through eighth grades were represented at the fair.

The regional science fair included students from Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, Brownsville and other communities.

Caleb's Life Science project was entitled "Grocery Cart or Toilet Seat: Which is Cleaner?"

Caleb spent 10 weeks researching, collecting data and preparing his materials and findings. He received guidance from a microbiologist and worked in a hospital laboratory to prepare his project.

Caleb is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Troy L. Carter, of Abilene.

He is the great-grandson of Maxine G. Cockrell and the great-great-grandson of Lula Mae Land Cockrell.

Complete the Customer Service Survey and win!

Chickasaw citizens who complete a tribal customer service survey can win \$100.

Chickasaws can access the Customer Service Survey through the tribal website at www.chickasaw.net. The survey seeks input from citizens regarding tribal programs, services and customer service.

After completing the survey, enter the giveaway. The \$100 will be given away each quarter. Winners will be announced in the *Chickasaw Times*.

Goodwin.

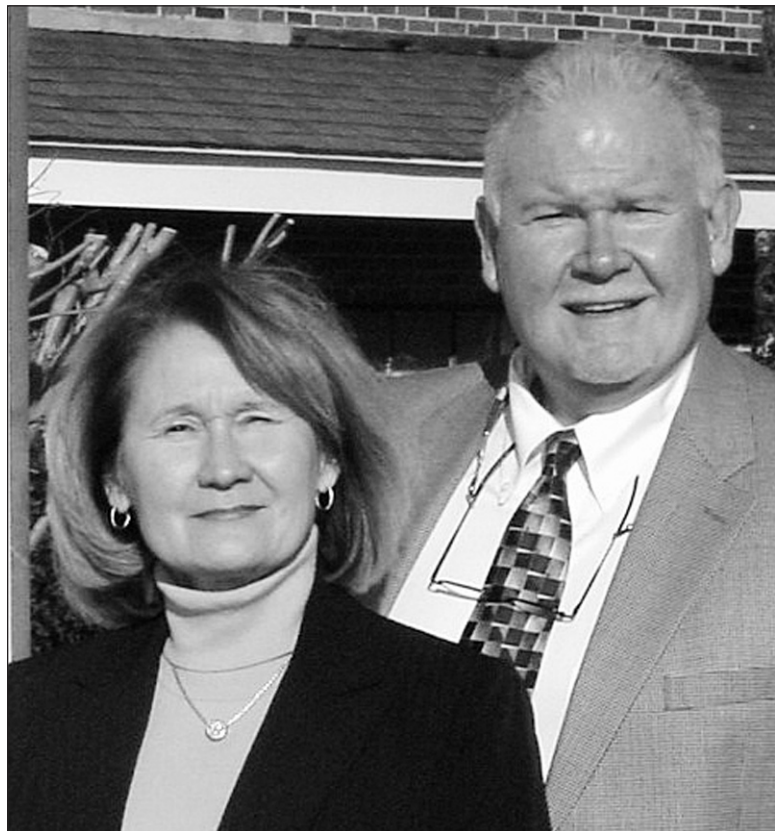
"Robert can best be described as a technology diplomat," Senior Vice President and Provost Dr. Nancy L. Mergler said. "He serves as the academic liaison for technology initiatives. In addition, he has the unique capacity to communicate patiently and clearly to anyone about technology."

Mr. Kelly received a framed certificate and \$500 for his exceptional performance.

Customer Service Survey Winner

Congratulations to Ms. Tamara Evans of McKinleyville, Calif., for winning the drawing of \$100. Thank you to all who completed our Customer Service Survey through the internet and remember, we will be

having our next drawing soon. Hope to hear from each and every one of you. To enter, go to www.chickasaw.net <<http://www.chickasaw.net>> and click on the link for customer service surveys.



Barbara Smith and Michael Smith

Chickasaw attorneys lead college courses on tribal sovereignty, tribal courts

NORMAN, Okla. - Chickasaw tribal judge Barbara Smith was part of a teaching team that during the spring semester provided instruction on tribal sovereignty and tribal courts.

Ms. Smith, a Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court justice and a Norman attorney, joined with her brother and law partner Michael Smith to teach the spring courses at the University of Oklahoma.

The tribal sovereignty course had 22 students, most of whom were Indian students and one-half of whom were graduate students. The course included several Chickasaw students.

The tribal sovereignty course focused on the unique history of tribes in the U.S., as well as the important aspects of sov-

ereignty as they relate to self-governance and tribal rights.

Ms. Smith and Mr. Smith also taught the tribal courts course at the University of Oklahoma School of Law. A total of 18 students participated in the course, which included at least one Chickasaw.

"We love teaching these courses," Ms. Smith said. "Michael and I teach these classes together and we utilize a 'talking circle' concept with the Socratic teaching method."

Most of the students, Ms. Smith said, had never participated in a class in which everyone faced each other.

"We find it helps the students to know each other and to participate in the class discussion," she said.

Chickasaw lawyer passes Oklahoma Bar, joins tribe

A California attorney has recently accepted a job with the Chickasaw Nation and has returned to work in Oklahoma.

Robin L. Rochelle has been practicing personal injury and real estate law in San Diego since 1989. He passed the Oklahoma Bar in February and was recently sworn in as a member of the Chickasaw Bar Association and the Oklahoma Bar Association.

He works at WinStar Casino in Thackerville, Okla., and looks forward to a long career with the tribe.

His parents are Gene and Wanda Rochelle, of Kingston, Okla., and his sister is Dr. Tina Cooper of the Chickasaw Nation Health System.



Robin L. Rochelle

Chickasaw student selected peer educator



Sandra Pickens

Sandra D. Pickens has been selected to attend the peer education program training and become an ECU peer educator.

The peer education program is operated by the Campus Initiative to Reduce Crime Against Women.

Ms. Pickens is the daughter of Daphne Brown, of Pauls Valley, Okla., and Sherman Pickens, of Wynnewood, Okla.

She is the granddaughter of Otto and Lillie Brown and Ledonia Anderson. She is the great-granddaughter of original enrollee Elsie McGee Brown and Jesse Brown.



Airman 1st Class Kindra Milligan

Airman 1st Class Kindra Milligan graduates basic

Airman First Class Kindra Milligan, USAF, graduated basic training from Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas in March and has been assigned to continue training at Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi.

Airman Milligan is the daughter of David and Mary Milligan, of Oklahoma City. She is the granddaughter of Raymond Milligan, of Moore, Okla., and the great-granddaughter of Chickasaw original enrollee Carolyn Milligan.

Capitol visit



Chad Keiser, a Chickasaw citizen and Oklahoma college student, recently visited the State Capitol. He took the opportunity to learn more about the political process and how young people need to be more involved. He personally discussed relevant issues with Representative Lisa Johnson Billy.

Otto and Lillie Brown – Remembrance Reunion In honor of our Parents, Blood, Sweat and Tears

You are cordially invited to come and share, laugh and reminisce with Otto and Lillie's family! The festivities will begin on Friday, August 7 with a meet and greet at the Days Inn in Ardmore, Okla.; Saturday, August 8 the reunion festivities; Sunday, August 9, supper and birthday cake.

Contact Cheryl Renee Hansbrough, Missouri, at (816) 795-0127, or Daphne Brown, Oklahoma, at (405) 207-9978 or email Sandra D. Pickens at sdpickens@yahoo.com for more information.

Chickasaw named Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Director

A Chickasaw citizen has recently been named director of the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service.

Capt. Kevin Meeks serves as the senior executive officer responsible for the delivery of primary and preventive health services to more than 350,000 Indians and Alaska Natives. He now oversees an annual budget of more than \$350 million.

Capt. Meeks is responsible for a network of five hospitals, 54 health centers and an extensive environmental health and engineering program.

He is a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service and was appointed to his post by Indian Health Service (IHS) Director Robert McSwain.

Capt. Meeks began his IHS career as a Commissioned Corps Officer in 1987. As an Environmental Health Officer, he has served in a variety of positions throughout South Dakota, Alaska and Oklahoma.

After completing his tour of duty in Alaska, Capt. Meeks returned to Oklahoma in 1995 as the Assistant Associate Director for the Office of Envi-

ronmental Health and Engineering, Oklahoma City Area Office.

From 2000 to 2006 he served as the Chief, Division of Environmental Health Service, and from 2006 to 2007 he was the Associate Director, Office of Environmental Health and Engineering.

In 2007, he was selected the Southeast Regional Commissioned Corps Liaison, providing personnel services to over 400 commissioned officers assigned to the Oklahoma City, Nashville and Albuquerque Areas.

During his career, Capt. Meeks has served on a variety of national and area IHS workgroups, special projects and



Capt. Kevin Meeks

other committees.

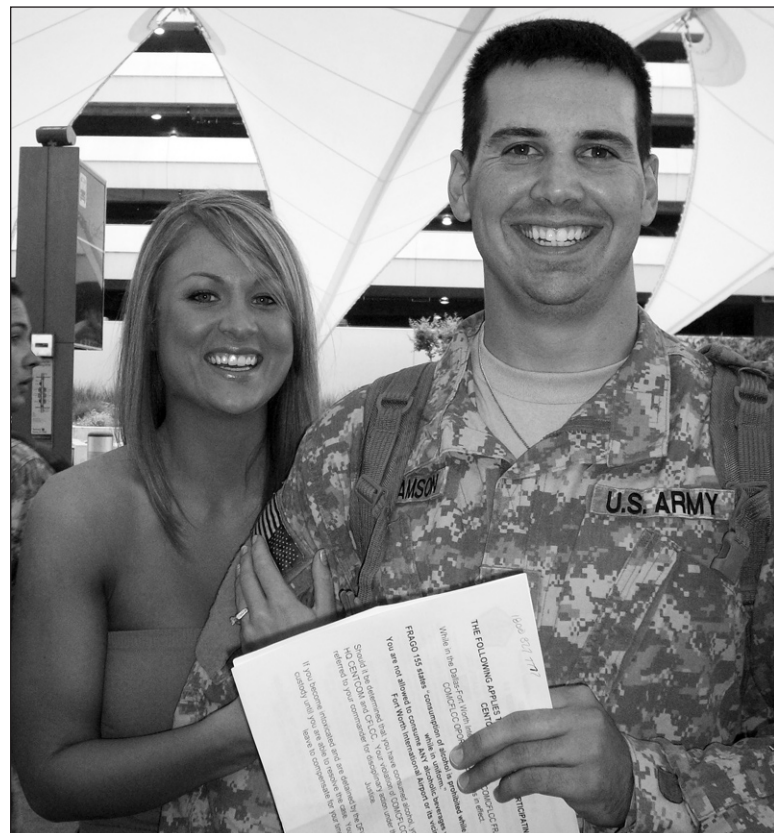
He has been a member of the IHS Self Governance Negotiation Team, IHS Shared Services Workgroup, OKC Residual Workgroup, Environmental Health Professional Advisory Committee, Commissioned Officers Association Board of Directors, and other workgroups involved in key agency and departmental projects.

He has been active in national Commissioned Corps issues and has participated in a number of emergency deployments with the Commissioned Corps.

Capt. Meeks is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, East Central (OK) University and Byng (OK) High School.

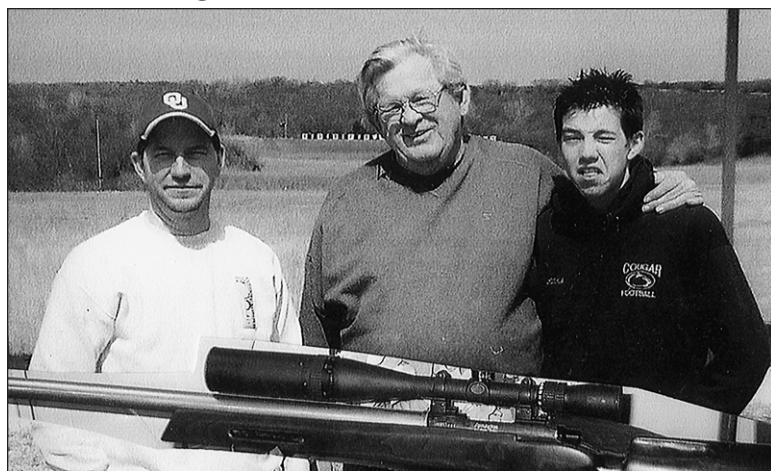
CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Visit home



Army National Guardsman Jonathan Cody Williamson landed at Dallas /Ft Worth International airport on May 14 to begin a two-week leave. His plane landed with 224 soldiers aboard. Garland High School students were there waving flags and hollering for the soldiers. A center row was formed through which the soldiers walked. Family stood in this area waiting for their family members. Family members waiting for Jonathan's arrival included his wife, Lauren, mother and father Jo and Mike Williamson, of Elk City, Okla., uncle Gary and aunt Janice, of Holly Lake Ranch, Texas, and cousin Kaleb Renfro, of Beaumont, Texas. Jonathan's term of service will be complete later this year. Jonathan is the grandson of Lorene Renfro, of Duncan, Okla. Welcome home, Jonathan, and all our Soldiers! We all appreciate what you are doing for us! Your family

Chickasaw generations shoot well



Bill Dooley, center, with Wil and Joshua.

The Oklahoma City Gun Club conducted its monthly Long Range Meet March 14, in Oklahoma City.

The Bill Dooley family was there representing three generations of Chickasaw men in the competition.

Joshua, 15, shot his first 600 yard match and shot 93% which is commendable.

Wil, his father, who holds Regional, State and National Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio, came in second. Wil and Joshua live in Texas.

Granddad Bill came in fifth in the 600 yard match. He lives in Sapulpa, Okla.

There were about 40 contestants.

The men shot with a .308 Winchester gun custom made by Bill Dooley.

Mr. Bill Dooley is the grandson of Winnie Neighbors Blocker, an original enrollee. Mr. Wil Dooley is her great-grandson and Joshua is her great-great-grandson.

The men are proud representatives of their Chickasaw heritage.

The family wish to pay tribute to the late Willis Griffin, Tulsa, who was their mentor in their competitive shooting.

NASA competition recognizes Chickasaw optics designer

A Chickasaw designer is a member of a design team that recently was honored for its work by the National Aviation and Space Administration (NASA).

Harold Brunt is an optomechanical designer for LumenFlow, a Michigan startup company. Mr. Brunt, along with two other designers, have developed a light imaging system that allows for 360-degree interior imaging of cylindrical objects.

The photonic (light) system illuminates the interior of cylindrical objects allowing for inspection of its tiny interior parts.

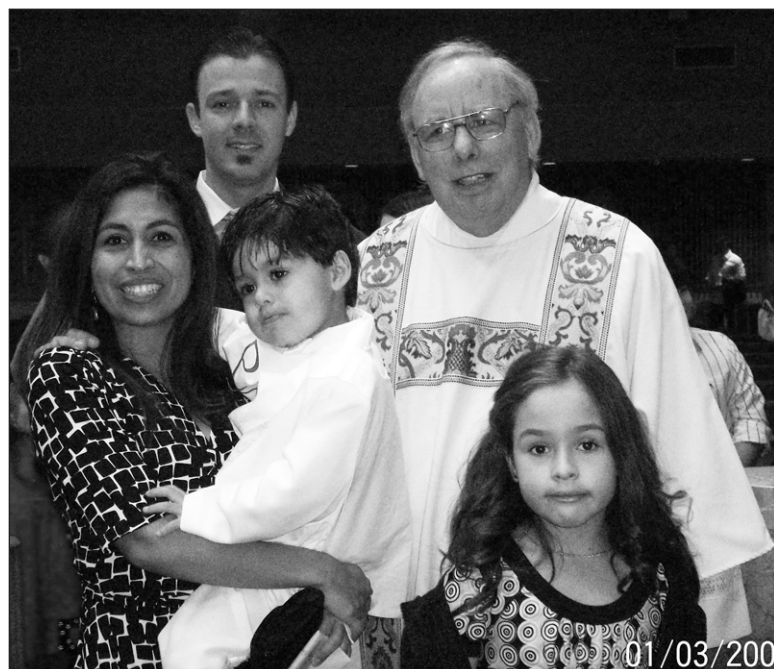
"It has a much higher resolution and greater depth of field than other devices," Mr. Brunt said. "That's what makes it so unique."

The device has a patent pending.

The design won an honorable mention in a NASA design contest.

Mr. Brunt is the son of Myrtle M. (Blevins) Brunt, of Zeeland, Mich. His grandfather is the late W.C. Blevins, a Chickasaw original enrollee.

Baptism celebrated



A New Life For Noah! Our baby grandchild was baptized on Sunday, March 01, 2009, at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Houston, Texas. Noah Benjamin Takoda Renfro, born July 13, 2005, to Benjamin and Amanda Renfro became a member in the Lord's family. A Sunday get together was enjoyed by his Grandma Janice and Grandpa Gary Renfro, of Holly Lake Ranch, Texas, Godparents Aunt Renee Vasquez Midland, Texas, Saul Levario, and his sons Esteban and Cristian, of San Antonio, Texas, Aunt Cristy McClain, of Lumberton, Texas, Uncle Aaron Renfro, of Fort Worth, Texas, and Cynthia Fuentes and daughter Lizza Fuentes. After a gift opening a wonderful meal was enjoyed by all. Congratulations Noah, Benjamin and Amanda! Also the grandson of Lorene Renfro, of Duncan, Okla.

Chickasaw elders honored for volunteer efforts

Nearly two hundred Chickasaw Nation elders gathered at WinStar Casino for the annual Elders Conference April 29, 2009.

Special speakers informed the elders on new technology in genealogy, issues in sovereignty and the renovation efforts underway on several Chickasaw Nation boarding schools.

The conference also gave the opportunity for the Division of Aging to recognize "Shining Stars" from each of the 12 senior centers.

"These people go above and beyond to help the staff and their fellow seniors," said Stacy Wesberry, senior information manager. "Their contributions can't necessarily be counted in hours, but they truly are our shining stars."

Shining Stars for 2009 were Ruth McAdoo, Madill; Pat Bartmess, Oklahoma City; Lou Carlton, Pauls Valley; Ruby Adkins, Purcell; Jerry Ridley, Sulphur; Virginia Mills, Tishomingo; L.D. Love, Achille; Jeannie Copeland and Mary Ahtone, Ada; Nadine Lewis, Ardmore; Lou Norman and Wilburn Gross, Connerville; Earl Sandlin, Duncan and Dean Starns, Kullihoma.

During this time, the awards for senior volunteers were also presented. Elders can earn volunteer hours doing everything from weeding gardens to cooking at their respective sites.

Those recognized for volunteer service include:

Achille

499 to 300 hours - Doris Sutterfield.

299 to 100 hours— L. Kay Anders, Mary Barcenas, Barbara Beshirs, Olene Beshirs, Rosa Gilmore and L.D. Love.

99 to 50 hours—Harold Anders, O.C. Beshirs and Flora Mead.

49 to 0 hours—Joe Beshirs, Wanda Connelly, Jackie Dobbins, Deloyd Hicks, Neva Hodge, Wanda Lewis, Truman Marris, Hearl Mead, Joyce Nichols, Linda Sinor, Katrinka Skinner, Larry Skinner, Bernice Sweeney and Virginia Wyche.

Ada

499 to 300 hours—Virginia Bowers, and Merle Stick.

299 to 100 hours - Pat Cox, Mildred Green, Alma Lillard, Claude Miller, Henry Patrick, Beulah Shavney, Carol Stout and Ann Thompson.

99 to 50 hours—Ruby Scott and Margaret Mellville.

49 to 0 hours—Mary Ahtone, Pauline Alexander, Bertha Allen, Diane Battles, Doy Battles, Betty Brown, Pauline Brown, Clark Cogburn, Geneva Cole, Artie Cooper, Carole Davis, Ruthie Ellis, Nell Go-

forth, J.L. Green, Mary Jo Green, Bernita Horton, Rose Jefferson, Bencie Lilliard, Ruby McKinney, Joann Miller, Nadine Owens, Calvin Parnacher, Bernice Patrick, Ginger Paulk, Linda Phillips, Alice Phillips, Charley Russell, Suzanne Russell, Emilea Stephens, Laveta Stephens, Pauline Walker, Bobbie Warner and Lou Yargee.

Ardmore

299 to 100 hours—Elsie Taylor.

49 to 0 hours—Elizabeth Anderson, Hawaii Anoatubby, Russell Anoatubby, Jim Farve, Betty Griffith, James Hanners, Dorothy Holt, Sammie Jacks, T.J. John, Thelma Kirby, Alice Lampkin, Letha Marris, Margaret McLaury, Robert McLaury, Sallie Palmer, Roy Perry, Shirley Perry, Joe Roberts, Virginia Roberts, Sue Simmons, Charles Tate, Pat Tribbey, Wilma Watson and Ramona Williams.

Connerville

499 to 300 hours—Lou Norman

299 to 100 hours—Doris Davis, Jane Ferris, Judy Fisher, Lou Norman, David Poe, Sharon Poe, Jim Reed, Lillian Underwood and Imogene Whelchel.

99 to 50 hours—Billie Easterling, Dawatha Easterling, Catherine Pendergraf, J.C. Poe, Bill Whelchel and Jerry Hart.

49 to 0 hours—Trecia Alford, Vinola Brown, Ellen Chapman, Deanna Clark, Leslie Clark, Marcella Cravatt, Bill Davis, Welborn Gross, Phylis Lattie, Faye McCurtain, Emma McLeod, Juanita Moody, Fredda Norman, Norma Prince, Carlton Underwood, Lillie Wisdom and Catherine Wood.



The 2009 Shining Star award recipients were honored April 29, 2009 at the Elders' Conference conducted at WinStar Casino in Thackerville, Okla. Front row, left to right are Ruby Adkins, Ruth McAdoo, Nadine Lewis, Lou Carlton, Jeannie Copeland and L.D. Love. On the back row are Earl Sandlin, Virginia Mills, Pat Bartmess, Lou Norman, Dean Starns and Jerry Ridley. Not pictured are Ruth McAdoo and Wilburn Gross.

Marcy Gray

Ashley, Patsy Bailey, Onita Carnes, Eula Gipson, Oscar Goodman, Marci Jones, Pauline Maxwell, Ruth McAdoo, Charles Norton, Joan Norton, Frank Potts, Sue Richards, Charles Sisson, Guy Eva Stowers and Sue Willis.

Pauls Valley

499 to 300 hours—Lou Carlton

299-100 hours—Betty Crabtree, Melvin Crabtree, Barbara Holt, Ronald McCurley, Gilbert Morris and Donnel Summers.

99 to 50 hours—Anetta Hensley, Magdalene Montgomery, Myrna Morris, Reed Carol, Pauline Rodke, Henry Rush and Mary Rush.

49 to 0 hours—Juanita Boney, Sharon Crouch, Don Cregger, Carolyn Claxton, Novaline Fox, Sue Gardner, Elwanda Loyd, Jack Loyd, Mary McCurley, Mary Lou Nichols, Bob Nichols, Carnell Peachlyn, Harold Ragland, Thelma Ragland, Janet Smith, Sandy Strickland, Geraldine Sweetman, Ethel Wade and Steve Wade.

Purcell

499 to 300 hours—Lee Crossley

299 to 100 hours—Ruby Adkins, Lenora Hobbs

99 to 50 hours—Wanda Farrow and Hank Ivester.

49 to 0 hours—Ida Elliot, Rondall Elliot, Kenneth Evans, Mary Evans, Jerry Fox, John Norvell, Mark Wallace and Jerry Watkins.

Sulphur

499 to 300 hours—Jerry Ridley and Edina Williams

299 to 100 hours—Betty Clark, Clarence Imotichey and LaJanta Nelson.

99 to 50 hours—Ollie Lowrance.

49 to 0 hours—Mary Joe Benke, Bob Blevins, Don Clark, Melva Dillard, Gladys Freeman, Joe Howard, Nadine McDonald, Katherine McGuire, Wilma Nelson, Charles Norton, Joe Palmer, Frankie Parker, Ruby Palmer, Floyd Shipman, Joyce Williams and Julian Williams.

Tishomingo

299 to 100 hours—Sadie Hearell, Barbara Hook, Georgine Hotema and Virginia Mills.

99 to 50 hours—Mary Alexander, Bill Mills, Shirley Tims.

49 to 0 hours—Sam Alexander, Marie Beck, Caroline Burklin, Hannah Cor-sello, Rebecca Kingsberry, Mary Lou Nickells, Kim Otis, Bobby Payne, Lenora Ratliff, Francis Rowe, Nettie Russell, Georgia Stufflebeam, Cecil Underwood, Jerry Underwood and Leona Wilson.

Duncan

499 to 300 hours—Lee Bishop and Jim Dryden.

299 to 100 hours—Ramona Bishop, Jeannie Goodman, Mike Lawrence, Richard Payne, Earl Sandlin and Melvin Stoner.

49 to 0 hours—Ruben Alexander, Dale Amerman, Harriett Amerman, Katherine Barrick, Everett Bedford, Pat Bedford, Betty Bradley, Lloyd Bradley, Berdine Carter, Tom Carter, Linda Cook, Mary Frances Cox, Quanah Cox, Alan K. Davis, Pauline Dove, Jean Ann Dryden, Betty Edwards, Leon Edwards, Glenda Garnett, Helen Hart, Clyde Headley, Patsy Howard, Joann King, Wayne King, Judy Lawrence, Barbara Leverett, Virginia Mann, Clara McFarland, Jerry Nubby, Jean Parks, Donna Rochell, Cheryl Sandlin, Bob Schwenn, Dee Schwenn, Leonard Sealey, Margie Sealey, Josephine Shaw, Ken Shaw, Don Simmons, Karen Simmons, Bentley Singleton, Glenda Singleton, Ona Stinson, Kathleen Stoner, Gladys Wade, Dorothy Whitfield, Linda Wilmoth and Violet Winter.

Kullihoma

99 to 50 hours—Dean Starns and Bes-sie Smith.

49 to 0 hours—Sandra Brown, Levi Edwards, Marie Frazier, Velma Frazier, Flora Perry, Sheila Rail and Helen Sanders.

Madill

299 to 100 hours—Jessie Sandefur

99 to 50 hours—Ana Mae Burns and Yvonne Harper.

49 to 0 hours—Wanda Ashley, Clyde

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Discovering identity, finding peace

Chickasaw youth turns to culture for healing

Robby Boston tells thousands of people each year that Chickasaw culture and traditions saved his life. Any time he feels down or depressed, he turns to his culture to help him deal with those emotions.

That is particularly important because this 19-year-old has experienced more heartbreak than most see in a lifetime.

"When I was nine years old I lost my dad to cancer," Robby said. "I took it pretty hard. Me and my dad were really close."

For the past several years, Robby has told his personal story an average of 10 to 12 times each year to audiences at seminars and conferences which include mental health professionals, among others. His most recent speaking engagement was May 8 during a children's behavioral health conference in Norman, Okla.

One of the keynote speakers at the conference titled "Art of Discovering Resilience," Robby is a case study in that art. He is also using his experience to help others who are going through difficult times.

Big Challenges

Soon after he lost his father to cancer, a deep depression set in.

"I quit hanging out with all my friends, quit going out with them and doing things, and started drinking," he said. "When I was about 10, I tried to commit suicide for the first time."

Because he was not aware of the services available to deal with emotional distress, Robby fell into a cycle of depression, substance abuse and despair, which led to two more suicide attempts.

His third attempt happened soon after one of his closest friends took his own life.

"I couldn't stop him," Robby said. "I took that real hard. He was one of my best friends. So, I started drinking again. I started doing drugs. And again I started feeling alone. I felt like I didn't belong anywhere. I felt like I didn't belong on this earth."

After his third attempt,



Robby Boston

Robby said he began thinking "that maybe the creator had something else in mind for me."

Soon afterward, he found the help he needed.

"That's when I started finding out about circles of care - systems of care," he said. "A friend of mine invited me to a meeting. He said 'why don't you go check it out?' I said 'I don't know.' He said 'free food,' I said 'I'll be there.'"

As Robby took part in more meetings, he reached out for the help that was available.

Circles of Care

"As I started going back to these meetings, more and more I started feeling better," he said. "There were people I could talk to."

At that point, he was able to get his substance abuse and other problems under control and focus his energies on working with Native youth with emotional difficulties.

"One thing that really helped me through lots of things was my culture," he said. "That's just huge to me - when I fit in somewhere."

"That's speaking for all youth. We want somewhere to fit in. We want somewhere to belong. I'm very involved with my culture. And when you know where you come from, who your people are, you are going to feel like you belong

somewhere."

For several years, Robby has been working with young people experiencing problems with substance abuse and other mental health issues. In 2006, the Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa named him "Tulsa Youth of the Year" for his work with American Indian youth.

He has been an active board member of the Tulsa Indian Health Care Resource Center and Circles of Care project since the beginning of the initiative. He was one of three facilitators for the youth track at a Circles of Care national grantee meeting in Portland.

Robby facilitated a workshop on Historical Trauma and Unresolved Grief at the 2008 Georgetown University Children's Mental Health Training Institute, in Nashville, Tenn. In April of this year, he spoke at the 2009 National Indian Child Welfare Association Annual Conference in Reno, Nev.

He also works one-on-one with a number of young people.

Cultural Guideposts

He said many of the young people dealing with these kinds of problems don't have family members to step in and lend a hand. In those cases, he said, he will take on the role of a big brother, teaching about culture, tradition and family

roles.

In other cases, he may help those with substance abuse problems understand that one can enjoy life without drugs.

In 2007, Robby took part in a youth listening conference in Tulsa, where he discussed the impact of culture on emotional health and well being. While he still deals with depression and alcoholism, he continues on the path to healing.

"Now, when I start feeling a little down, I start feeling a little depressed again, I will go to a ceremony or go to a powwow or a dance to get that good feeling," he said. "Whether you are Native or you are any other race, learn your culture, learn your ways."

He also continues speaking to groups and individuals to spread the word that help is available.

No Longer 'Taboo'

"Mental health used to be a taboo to talk about," Robby said. "That social stigma of mental health is a straitjacket for crazy people. That's not what it's about. Mental health deals with every aspect of your life - social, spiritual, physical."

"Not a lot of people know that they can go get help. Tell somebody. If you see somebody that's hurting tell them about the services so they can get help and won't have to go through what I went through."

Circles of Care is a project to develop culturally appropriate mental health services based on input from community members. Systems of care are developed on the premise that the mental health needs of children, adolescents, and their families can be met within their home, school, and community environments. These systems are also developed around the principles of being child-centered, family-driven, strength-based, and culturally competent and involving interagency collaboration.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Help is available through number of mental health units

If you are in a crisis and need help right away:

Call this toll-free number, available 24 hours a day, every day: 1-800-273-TALK (8255). You will reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a service available to anyone. You may call for yourself or for someone you care about. All calls are confidential.

Most suicide attempts are expressions of extreme distress, not harmless bids for attention. A person who appears suicidal should not be left alone and needs immediate mental-health treatment. If you think someone is suicidal, do not leave him or her alone. Try to get the person to seek immediate help from his or her doctor or the nearest hospital emergency room, or call 911. Eliminate access to firearms or other potential tools for suicide, including unsupervised access to medications.

(Information from the National Institute of Mental Health)

Local Help Available

The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services provides a mental health services locator on their Web site at the following address.

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/databases/>

At this site you may simply click on a state to find services in your area.

Answers to mental health questions are available at the following toll free numbers weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. EST.

(800) 789-2647

(866) 889-2647 (tdd)

Contact information for mental health services in the Ada area is below:

Ada Systems of Care

Crystal Smith

crystalsocada@yahoo.com

(580) 436-6130

Contact information for mental health services in the Ardmore area is below:

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services of Southern Oklahoma (MHSSO)

www.mhssso.org

Pamela kerkstra

pkerkstra@mhssso.org

(580) 223-5636

Chickasaw attorney joins U.S. Foreign Service

It takes considerable commitment to accept a new job in a foreign country, especially if you don't know *which* foreign country.

But that is exactly what Jennifer Barnes has done.

Ms. Barnes, a Chickasaw working for the Chickasaw Nation Division of Justice, recently accepted an offer to serve as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Department of State.

"There are a lot of unknowns and I have to be very patient waiting for travel orders," said Ms. Barnes. "It's a little frightening. It is exciting, nerve-racking and joyful all rolled into one package."

According to the U.S. Department of State web site, "Foreign Service Officers are America's advocates, promoting peace and supporting prosperity as they advance our interests and protect American citizens throughout the world."

There are currently more than 6,600 Foreign Service Officers located at more than 265 embassies, consulates and other diplomatic missions in the Americas, Africa, Europe, East Asia and the Pacific, Middle East and North Africa, and South and Central Asia.

Ms. Barnes will learn the location of her assignment after five weeks of initial training in Washington, D.C. Assignments are made based on bids prospective Foreign Service Officers place for desired locations during the first week of that training.

"At the end of the training they have 'flag day,' which is like a graduation ceremony and they give you the flag of the country where you will be stationed," said Ms. Barnes. "That's exciting!"

After the initial training, she will have additional language training and consular training before moving to her new post.

"I speak French, but it's very rusty," she said. "I did an exchange program when I was in high school, but I haven't used it much at all since then, so it may be non-existent."

"I have an inkling I will be sent to French-speaking Africa, because one of your first two posts has to be in a hardship area. But the U.S. Government's definition of hardship isn't necessarily my definition of hardship, so I'm not too intimidated by that."

Ms. Barnes has worked for the Chickasaw Nation Division of Justice for more than three years.

Chickasaw Nation Attorney General Deanna Hartley-Kelso said that while she was sad to see such a valued member of her staff leave, she was very excited Ms. Barnes has such a



Jennifer Barnes

great opportunity.

"The experience of working abroad for the U.S. State Department is a rare and coveted opportunity," said Ms. Hartley-Kelso. "Jennifer is a very focused and goal-oriented individual and I am confident that these qualities will serve her well in meeting the challenges of her new position."

Ms. Barnes served as an intern for the Chickasaw Nation Division of Justice through the tribe's internship program. She has also interned with the Indian Health Service and the Environmental Protection Agency. As a high school student she worked in the tribe's summer youth program.

She said her experiences had really helped prepare her for the new assignment.

"We're a nation within a nation and

it's sort of like we're Foreign Service officers already in a sense," she said. "I think working here helped me to be more aware. When you work for the tribe and you are working with all these other tribes and with the U.S. government and you are constantly in this struggle, sort of, and I think you have to learn to be diplomatic all along the way."

"Being an attorney I've been able to work with some really great people here. I think they've given me such a wonderful professional foundation to start out. Debra (Gee) and Deanna (Hartley-Kelso) teach you everything they know. They have so much knowledge. They have done so

many things. Deanna has worked with the United Nations. Debra has worked with the Department of Justice. I'm going to miss it."

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said it was a "great joy" to see young people such as Ms. Barnes progress through their education into very successful careers.

"Jennifer is a talented, energetic and determined individual who has accomplished a great deal at a very young age," said Gov. Anoatubby. "She has done excellent work for the Chickasaw Nation and we are confident she will have a distinguished career as a Foreign Service Officer."

Foreign Service Officers work in one of five specific

career tracks. Management Officers run U.S. embassies. Consular officers protect Americans abroad and strengthen U.S. border security. Economic Officers promote U.S. economic and trade interests abroad. Political Officers interpret events and situations related to U.S. interests. Public Diplomacy Officers broaden understanding of American values and policies.

Ms. Barnes selected a career track as a Consular Officer when she first applied for a position as a Foreign Service Officer in 2005. While she passed the written examination and oral assessment, very few Foreign Service Officers were being added at the time. She was recently selected for a post after going through the process for the second time.

"I chose Consular (because) consular provides a lot of opportunity to help - I can use my legal background - Americans who are getting in trouble in different countries and with different laws and customs to make sure they are being treated fairly," she said. "In some cases you can help Americans who have moved to other countries. You help them with voting abroad and things like that."

"And then of course, you help in the event of the occasional crisis when protesters close down airports, or there is a hurricane or a tsunami. It's a lot to learn. I hope it's all in the training," she said with a laugh.

Ms. Barnes said she was surprised to learn there are less than 70 Native Americans serving as Foreign Service Officers.

She said that while there are Asian-American groups, Hispanic-American groups and African-American groups represented in the Foreign Service, there is not a Native American group.

Ms. Barnes sees that as an opportunity.

"That's something I'm looking forward to starting," she said.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

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Marilyn Coltz honored as 'Foster Care Parent of the Year'

Marilyn Coltz was named 2009 "Foster Care Parent of the Year" by the Chickasaw Nation Foster Care and Adoption Program during the annual Resource Family Appreciation Expo. The event was May 9 at Camp Bond in Tishomingo.

"I was very surprised when they told me I won the award, there are so many great people and families in the foster care program and it is a true honor to receive this award," said Ms. Coltz.

Ms. Coltz has served as a Chickasaw tribal resource family since 2002. She has been a foster parent to 18 boys and girls ranging from age two to 17 and plans to host her 19th foster child this month.

Indian Child Welfare and Foster Care staff who have worked closely with her describe her as cooperative, compliant, caring, flexible, positive, and always



Foster Care Parent of the Year Marilyn Coltz

willing to take a child in her home if she has room.

"Marilyn has always been willing to provide respite care and emergency placements," said Jeanie Anderson, Chickasaw Nation Manager of Foster Care and Adoption. "She is understanding, believes in second chances

and a true inspiration to our children, especially our adolescent girls. We are blessed to have Marilyn as a tribal resource family and appreciate her sharing her heart and home with our tribal

children."

Foster care parents serve a separate purpose than adoptive care parents, although they may become adoptive parents. Foster care parents are temporary parents who bring in and care for children while they are in the process of reunification efforts with their families or in transition to being adopted by a family.

"I have had children as little as two weeks and as long as three years," Ms. Coltz said. "With each child you build a special bond and the hope is that you can make a positive impact on their lives and show them what it means to be a family. I want to let every child that is with me to know that they are loved and a part of my family."

"Marilyn has set a high standard for the foster parents that follow her," Anderson said. "I am appreciative for the great service that she has provided to our families. These parents are instrumental in filling the void in these children's lives when they are sepa-

rated from their families and as foster care families they play a vital part in the children's healing, we couldn't do it without them!"

Currently, the Chickasaw Nation has over 100 children in relative, foster or adoptive care within the 13 counties of the tribal service area. A total of 49 children are wards of the tribe. There are more than 20 additional children placed into foster care or adoptive care outside of the service area and in states other than Oklahoma.

For more information on the Chickasaw Nation foster care and adoption programs and how to become a foster care or adoptive parent, contact the Chickasaw Nation Department of family advocacy at 580-272-5550 or visit their offices located at 231 Seabrook Road in Ada, Okla. in the Youth and Family Services building.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Become a foster care family today!

The Chickasaw Nation Foster Care program is always looking for appropriate families for children. An applicant can expect a six-month wait to find out if he/she qualifies and must provide the following documentation:

- Income verification
- Social Security cards
- CDIB
- Auto/home insurance verifications
- Physician's health statement
- Copies of vaccination records for pets
- Five references
- Valid driver's license
- Copy of marriage certificate

To become a foster care or adoptive home with the Chickasaw Nation, a prospective family must:

- Complete the initial application forms and criminal background forms and submit to the Foster Care/Adoption Manager for processing.
- Submit to a Child Welfare Registry check on the family.
- Complete PRIDE training.
- Pass an intensive home study
- Maintain a home which meets the physical standards as listed in Tribal Foster Care/Adoption Home Standards.
- Be at least 21 years of age

Loan assistance now available to farmers

Farmers and ranchers in Pontotoc, Seminole, Coal and Hughes Counties in Oklahoma can now apply for emergency loan assistance from the local Farm Service Agency.

Area producers who suffered damage during the severe winter storms of Jan. 26-28, 2009 can apply for the loans until October 20, 2009.

To be eligible, an applicant must have suffered losses as a direct result of the storms and be unable to get credit from other sources. Loans covering actual losses will carry a 3.75% annual interest rate.

For more information, or to apply, please contact the Pontotoc County Farm Service Agency office at (580) 332-3070

Don't throw away that trash - wear it!



Michaela and Mercedes Milligan of Ada celebrated Earth Day by participating in the "Trash Fashion Show" during the 2009 Festival of the Arts in Oklahoma City. Under the direction of Chickasaw Nation art instructor Trina Jones, the sisters created four original outfits out of recycled materials. Michaela and Mercedes are the daughters of Marcus and Cherie Milligan.



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Chickasaw coach honored as Lone Star Conference Coach of the Year

LAWTON, Okla. - A Chickasaw college basketball coach was awarded Lone Star Conference (LSC) Men's Basketball Co-Coach of the year, for his outstanding performance in his first year as Head Coach at Cameron University, in Lawton.

"This was an exciting award to receive," Coach Wade Alexander said. "As I told my players, this award is really a reflection upon them and their hard work and dedication to the program. They believed in what we were doing this year and they are the ones out on the court making baskets, playing defense and rebounding."

Cameron University is a four-year NCAA Division II college. This year, Cameron University finished with a 14-14 record, and gained a slot in the division playoffs. Cameron had not made the playoffs in over a decade. The basketball team finished 6-21 last year.

"We really had a strong turnaround year finishing with a winning conference record, something Cameron had only done two times in the last 20 years," Alexander said. "This year showed we can compete and we hope to build on that next year."

Cameron University had a very competitive schedule throughout the year, including games against N C A A Division I schools University of Oklahoma

and University of North Texas.

Alexander enjoys Cameron University where basketball is the main sport on a campus.

"I plan on staying at Cameron for a long time," he said. "I really enjoy being close to home and I feel comfortable coaching at this level."

Alexander has had a successful coaching career as an assistant over the last five years and has now proven himself



Wade Alexander

as a competitive head coach.

"It was a big transition into becoming a head coach because the pressure now falls on me to make the right decisions," said Alexander. "I really enjoy the added responsibility and have got some good advice from colleagues who helped me have a successful transition."

Alexander started his coaching career at Bacone College, in Muskogee, Okla., as the assistant men's basketball coach/ recruiting coordinator and head men's and women's golf coach.

Under head coach Alan Foster, Alexander helped lead Bacone to a second-place finish in the Red River Athletic Conference during the 2003-2004 season.

Alexander then became the assistant men's basketball coach at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, in Kingsville Texas, also an LSC school.

While under head coach Pete Peterson, Alexander helped guide the squad to a third-place finish in the LSC during the 2004-2005 season.

Before heading to Cameron Univer-

sity, Alexander served as the assistant men's basketball coach/ recruiting coordinator under head coach Terry Shannon at East Central University (ECU) in Ada, Okla., and was responsible for all of the administrative duties from 2005-08.

While at ECU he helped lead the Tigers to a third-place finish in the LSC during the 2005-06 season, and was instrumental in the development of seven LSC All-Conference players.

"The Chickasaw Nation helped me to excel to the level I am at today," Alexander said. "To become a head basketball coach at the college level you have to have a master's degree or higher and without the support of the Chickasaw Nation education grants and scholarships I could not have reached my goal."

Alexander grew up in Marlow, Okla. He received his bachelor's degree in exercise science from ECU, in May 2001.

Alexander achieved his master's degree in secondary education with an emphasis on sports administration from ECU, in December 2002.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS and EVENTS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ADA

Adult Tennis Clinic

June 8-11, (580) 272-5551

Adult Tennis Clinic

June 15-18, (580) 272-5551

Chipota Chikashshanompoli

(Chickasaw language club for children ages three to 12)

July 18, (580) 272-5310

CONNERVILLE

Connerville Area Chickasaw Community Council

2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

EDMOND

5th Annual Connecting to American Indian Learner's Conference

June 13, (580) 272-5520

KINGSTON

Chickasaws of Texoma Community Council

4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Ruth McAdoo, (580) 564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council

2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Sarah Lea, (580) 564-4570

KULLIHOMA

Stomp Dance

June 26, (580) 332-8685

Chikashsha Ittifama (Chickasaw Reunion)

June 26-27, (580) 332-8685

NEWCASTLE

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council

2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council

1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Linda O'Hagan, 405-350-3311

PURCELL

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council

4th Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

TISHOMINGO

Family Fun Walk/Run

June 6, (580) 387-2711

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council

3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Ann Fink, 580-371-3351

CALIFORNIA

Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council

Lynn M. Dorrough, 909-213-7273

COLORADO

Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado

Quarterly Meetings

Stephen Bingham, 303-377-4637

KANSAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita

3rd Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

Lynn Stumblingbear, 316-945-9219 or Pam Harjo, 316-393-0696

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council

Quarterly Meetings

Vadare Cornelison, 505-332-1776

TEXAS

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas

San Antonio, TX Area

Michele Moody, 210-492-2288

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas

Austin, Texas Area

2nd Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Gene Thompson, 512-258-7919

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council

Dallas/Fort Worth Area, TX

3rd Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

John C. Atkins, (972) 271-0692

Helping each other discover Chickasaw heritage

Chickasaw students at OU gather in 'Learning Community'

An innovative program designed for Chickasaw students recently wrapped up its inaugural year at the University of Oklahoma.

The program, the University of Oklahoma Chickasaw Nation Learning Community (OUCNLC), serves as a support network for incoming Chickasaw students. It also nurtures Chickasaw pride and culture and builds a core group of students who are willing to give back to their tribe, said program facilitator Brent Sykes.

The mission of the Learning Community (LC) is to help students successfully transition from high school or community college to the University of Oklahoma and learn what it means to be Chickasaw.

"The Learning Center is an innovative, student-centered learning experience," Sykes said. "Students come together and learn about Chickasaw heritage and history."

About 14 students got involved in the program during the past academic year and have been meeting about twice a week.

Most, Sykes said, are now poised for leadership roles.

Sykes said he polled several students at the beginning of the year to get an idea of their knowledge of the Chickasaw Nation.

"The vast majority said they didn't know what it meant to be Chickasaw," he said. "A lot of students have not been exposed to Chickasaw language and culture."

Stephanie Pritchett, a freshman from Dallas, said she learned volumes about her heritage through the program.

"I didn't know what to expect," she said. "I grew up in Dallas and the only other Chickasaw people I ever met were my cousins."

She now has connections with other tribe members, thanks to the LC.

"We've become good friends, it's amazing how we all have that (Chickasaw) connection."

During the past year, the group witnessed a performance of the Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe watched movies and studied together in a Native American Studies course.

During this school year, students also created and developed a rating instrument to assess a "what is a strong Chickasaw family" survey.

The survey was distributed

at the annual Chickasaw Children's Fair in Ada, where students interviewed Chickasaw citizens ages 18 and older.

A highlight was meeting Gov. Bill Anoatubby during the April's Children's Fair.

For many it was their first trip to tribal headquarters.

Ms. Pritchett made her first trip to Ada.

"It is really interesting," she said. "It's nice to know where you are from, and to have a cultural identity."

Jennifer Taylor, a senior student who transferred to OU after serving in the military, also joined the group.

She said had no expectation of what the group would offer.

"I learned about culture and was able to participate with people from the Chickasaw Nation."

Without the Learning Community, she said, "You wouldn't have known the other person was Chickasaw, it helps you realize they are there and you are part of a bigger family."

Taylor said she received tuition assistance from the Chickasaw Nation. She is studying microbiology,

and is interested in working to find a cure for diabetes through medical research.

She is inspired by her friend's son who has

diabetes, and the fact that diabetes is prevalent in the Native American population.

Thanks to the Learning Community, she now knows what the Chickasaw Nation does to enhance lives of others.

"The Learning Community opened our eyes to the programs and services



Members of the University of Oklahoma Chickasaw Nation Learning Community include, front row from left, Sam Rice, Mustang, Okla., Stephanie Pritchett, Dallas, and Ahrens Kerwood, Vidor, Texas. Back row from left, Joe Thomas, McAlester, Okla., Jennifer Taylor, Marietta, Okla., and program facilitator Brent Sykes.

that are available," she said. "The Chickasaw Nation wants to help."

"I had no Chickasaw influences besides mail and financial support," freshman student Ahrens Kerwood, of Vidor, Texas, said.

Kerwood's grandmother served as a Chickasaw example in his childhood but lived eight hours away.

"It was not a constant connection," he said.

Kerwood, an International Studies major, said he "hopes to establish opportunities and discover what the tribe needs from us," in the future.

"Through helping us we can help others later," he said, referring to the Chickasaw Nation.

As for the future of the LC, "All of us are looking for ways to stay active; we

don't want to give it up. It has been a successful pilot run.

"(The Learning Community) is a strong pillar for all Chickasaws who want to be intertwined."

Sam Rice, of Mustang, Okla., grew up around Chickasaw culture and didn't want to joint the LC initially.

"My mom encouraged me to go and I have learned a lot," she said.

Joe Thomas grew up in McAlester with plenty of Choctaw influences.

The youngest of 13 children, Joe said he would not have been able to go to college without financial support from the Chickasaw Nation.

He is a first-generation college student.

"Without the support of the Chickasaw Nation I wouldn't be here now," he said.

Through this group, he learned more about the Chickasaw Nation.

"We have our own dress and language," he

said. "There is more to being Chickasaw. Not all Indians are the same."

The Learning Center at OU, Sykes said, was a prototype and can serve as a model for universities and American Indian tribes across the nation to emulate. Sykes said the program would mature with the students' needs and include an on-going research project on what is a strong Chickasaw family.

"That information is going to shape the services of the Family Resource Center at OU," he said.

For more information about the University of Oklahoma Chickasaw Nation Learning Community, contact Brent Sykes at 1-405-203-1677.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

"(The Learning Community) is a strong pillar for all Chickasaws who want to be intertwined."

Ahrens Kerwood, Vidor, Texas

University of Oklahoma freshman and Chickasaw Nation Learning Community member.



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Chickasaw Nation Head Start graduates over 150 students

The Chickasaw Nation Head Start program celebrated six Head Start graduations in May. More than 150 Head Start students graduated from the Ada, Ardmore, Duncan, Madill, Sulphur and Tishomingo Head Start centers.

"Head Start is one of the most important educational stepping stones in a child's life," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "Head Start puts students on a path to success by giving them the tools needed to make the transition to the next level of their education and beyond."

Awards were presented to the foster grandparent and parent volunteer of the year at each center. These awards were given to volunteers who went above and beyond in their dedication to success in the classroom.

"The Head Start program is a family

oriented program that is parent driven and focused on preparing students with a well rounded education for their transition into kindergarten," said Lisa John, administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education. "The schools they lead into have really seen our students excel in the classroom as well as socially,"

Head Start is a federally-funded education program that serves three- and four-year-olds from income-eligible families. The program offers components in education, parent and guardian involvement, health, social services and services for children with disabilities.

Throughout the school year Head Start students participate in a variety of activities and field trips including trips to area museums, fire stations, libraries,

zoos, and the annual Chickasaw Nation Festival.

Head Start celebrates annually with "Week of the Young Child" an event focused around the students including a parade, Little Olympics, parent-child breakfast, field trip day, balloon launch, and a child appreciation day carnival.

"This is the first graduation of many to come for these students and we want to wish them success in their future endeavors," said Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Head Start director. "We want to recognize the parents and volunteers that are an inspiration to these children and thank you for the opportunity we have had to be a positive impact in the lives of these children."

Graduates from each center celebrated graduation by performing skits and

singing songs for family members, friends and guests. Chickasaw Nation officials, center directors, supervisors, teachers and staff members congratulated and awarded diplomas to graduates during the ceremonies.

Applications for the Head Start program are accepted at the Chickasaw Nation Child Care Center or Head Start Centers throughout the service area. Applications may also be mailed or faxed to applicants.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program, contact Danny Wells, Head Start director, at (580) 436-7276, an area Head Start Center, located in Ada, Ardmore, Duncan, Madill, Sulphur and Tishomingo, or visit www.chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.



Graduation ceremonies for Chickasaw Nation Ada Head Start was conducted Tuesday, May 19. At far left is Gov. Bill Anoatubby, and tribal Division of Education Administrator Lisa John is at far right. Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Director of Head Start, stands at the back. Fourth row from left, Ashlynn Barnes, Chloe Miller, Kaylee Wesley, Talia Roberts, Triniti Cotanny, Caden Carey, Daniel Bronnenberg, Trevor John, Braven Matthews, Macy Cardinale, Jada Standridge and Alyssa Baken. Third row from left, Zoe Allen, Sari Huston, Laylah Huston, Nyla Hatton, Lauren Key, Macy Davis, Lynddie Taylor, Jaylee Willis and Aiyanna Lane. Second row from left, Trey Wilson, Ali Byers, Ayden Tims, Tiliyah Skanes, Madison Berryman, Tre'Vawn Wheeler, Precious Colungo, Tobias, Isaiah Jacobs, Rhyllind Straub and Oscar Bunner. Seated on the floor are Kason Walker, Brandon Jim, Avery Elliot, Raheim Wedlow, River Chapman, Blake Berryman, Dillon Palmer, Clayton Hayes, Jonathan Isom and Ethan McGuire.



Graduation ceremonies for Chickasaw Nation Duncan Head Start was conducted Thursday, May 14. Front row from left, teacher Debi Phillips, Jordan Lawson, Ihiry Scott, Branden Herrin, Christopher Hopkins, Elvia Tamez, Kaegan Henderson, and teacher Elizabeth Ward. Second row from left, teacher Alice Bridges, Jesus Ramirez, Declan Scharinghausen, Maddox Foster, Nathan Hernandez, Zuleyma Baeza, Ameila Casady, and Lillie Hall (Foster Grandparent). Third row from left, Samiara Timmons, Jeremiah Williams, Britteny Worley, Talyn Conyer, and Makiah Blackwell. Back row from left, Lt Gov. Jefferson Keel, Lisa John, Danny Wells.



Graduation ceremonies for Chickasaw Nation Ardmore Head Start was conducted Friday, May 15. Front row from left, Christopher Johns, Mark Burns, Karson Rice, Emily Swanson, Lexus Ozuna, Kimara Walker, Raven Washburn, Frank Tillman and Cameron Parker. Second row from left, Bradley Johnson, Latonia Nugent, Gabriel Osment, Morgan Hayes, Yahir Perez, Madisyn Sanderson, Abigail Stites, An Dinh, Michael Joe, Michael Godwin, Makyra Humbdy and Dalyn Rhyne. Third row from left, Roberta Acosta, Day'Na Baker, Julio Banda, Brandon Chastain, Kason Latimer, Chloe Rucker, Savannah Woods, Armando Zapata, Bryce Allen, Kaitlyn Berry and Chikashah Willmond. Fourth row from left, A'korieanta Hall, Cameron Boyles, Austin Byers, Brooklyn Coronado, Charlie Fuller, Sadie Oliver, Emilie Orsack, Camie McGahey, Dylan Ware and Cale McClean. Behind the students on the fifth row is Chickasaw Nation Head Start Director Danny Wells, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, Governor Bill Anoatubby and Division of Education Administrator Lisa John.

Mike McKee and Marcy Gray



Graduation ceremonies for Chickasaw Nation Madill Head Start was conducted Monday, May 18. Front row from left, Yoseline Barrientos, Autumn Bryant, Kristina Cunningtubby, Konner Hudson, Coby Sandefur, Lizbeth Fuentes, Jimena Guevara, Amada Ibarra and Emilie Johnson. Second row from left, Marcus Johnson, Abbie Lambertsen, Cheyenne Lansdale, Isaiah Marris, Haylee McDougall, Axzel Mendoza, Lane Moore, Erin Perry and Jesus Diaz Jr. Back row from left, teacher's assistant LaDena Parnacher, Chickasaw Nation Head Start Director Danny Wells, Division of Education Administrator Lisa John, teacher Kendra Groves and disability aide Randi Mann.

Parents, volunteers recognized at annual Head Start dinner

SULPHUR, Okla. - Time and effort parents and volunteers spend to help make the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program a success were recognized at the Head Start Parent Appreciation Dinner Thursday, May 7 at the Murray County Expo Center in Sulphur.

"The goal tonight is to recognize the parents and caregivers for their dedication and efforts," said Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Head Start director. "The foundation of our program is built upon these families. We want them to feel inspired and appreciated."

Following the meal, plaques and pins were presented to several Head Start parents and volunteers for serving as policy council representatives, committee members and officers, top classroom and center volunteers, foster grandparents and reading volunteers.

Rachel Wood, Tishomingo, was named "Community Volunteer of the Year." She volunteered 320 hours during the school year at Head Start activities.

Ashley Sanderson, Ardmore, was named "Parent Volunteer of the Year." Ms. Sanderson

dedicated 200 volunteer hours at Head Start events and activities.

The Mary E. Parker Memorial Library in Sulphur was recognized as the "Top Center Community Volunteer" and the Madill Center received the "Most Volunteer Readers" award.

Sulphur Center received the "Most Books Read at Home and at the Center" award for reading 174 books and the Ardmore Classroom received the plaque

"Most Books Read in the Classroom and at Home" award with 126 books read.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program, contact Danny Wells, Head Start director, at (580) 436-7276, an area Head Start Center, located in Ada, Ardmore, Duncan, Madill, Sulphur and Tishomingo, or visit www.chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.



Head Start Director Danny Wells presents Ashley Sanderson with the "Head Start Parent Volunteer of the Year" award. Ms. Sanderson volunteered 200 hours during Head Start activities.

Marcy Gray



Head Start Director Danny Wells presents Rachel Wood with the "Head Start Community Volunteer of the Year" award. Ms. Wood volunteered 320 hours toward Head Start activities.

SEE MORE HEAD START PARENT VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER PHOTOS, PAGE 24

HEAD START GRADUATIONS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22



Graduation ceremonies for Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Head Start was Monday, May 18. Front row from left, Kathryn Newberry, Shandi Mays, William McCarter IV, Leann Smith and Brayden Wheeler. Second row from left, Cody Airington, Aven Cribbs, Ashton De Leon, Shelbie Fleming, Topanga Love and Abbie McDaniel. Third row from left, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Tishomingo District Legislator Scott Colbert, Division of Education Administrator Lisa John and Head Start Director Danny Wells.



Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, second row, far left, Division of Education Administrator Lisa John, second row, right, and tribal Head Start Director Danny Wells, fourth row, second from left, along with classroom teacher Jonie Wallace and Frances Barrett, teacher assistant at the Chickasaw Nation Sulphur Head Start graduation Tuesday, May 19 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Sulphur. Graduates include, front row, from left; Autumn Dunham, Brendan Johnson, Domanick Bailey, Evan Gonzales, Kenley Rogers, Alondra Pena, Nataley Ezell and Daniel Gallegos. Second row, from left, Karleigh Ficklin, Jared Clary, Kaden Prather, Sierra Bowles, Emily Davis, Yasmin Harris and Tiodoro Guevera. Third row, from left, Rylan Baker, Evelyn Davis, Patience Loboda, Abbie O'Dell, Isaac Todd, Remington Johnson, Aubrey Sartors and Ryan Dunn.

HEAD START PARENT VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23



Volunteers and parents from the Ardmore Center receive pins and plaques during the Head Start Parent Appreciation Dinner. From left, Amanda Wittner, parent committee vice president; Ashley Sanderson, parent committee president; and Amber Rice, policy council representative.



Alice Bowens, Foster Grandparent at the Madill Center, accepts an appreciation plaque from Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Head Start director.



Parent and volunteer members from the Ada Head Start Center receive pins at the Head Start Parent Appreciation Dinner. From left, the family of Jalen Frazier; George Frazier, Sonya Frazier and Loren Scott; Michele Davis, classroom three top volunteer; Rachel Storkel and Crystal Gant, classroom two top volunteers.



Amber Fleming, left, Tishomingo Center parent committee president, and Tonya Wheeler, parent committee reporter, were two of the parents and volunteers honored at the Head Start Parent Appreciation Dinner. Ms. Wheeler was also named Top Tishomingo Center Volunteer.



Sulphur Center parents and volunteers were recognized with pins and plaques at the Head Start Parent Appreciation Dinner include, from left, Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon, Mary E. Park Memorial Library representative; Linda Davis, parent committee reporter and policy council chairperson; Stephanie Coulson, parent committee secretary; and Alissa Dunn, parent committee vice-president.

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Chickasaw high school students receive All State FCA honors

OKLAHOMA CITY - Chickasaw students Lindsey Elliott and Caitlyn James were awarded Allstate honors by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) association April 29, at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

"FCA showcases some of the greatest all around student-athletes in the state," said Todd Thomsen, FCA Area Representative for Southeast Oklahoma. "Lindsey and Caitlyn are both first-class individuals and represent classy ladies who are true to their Christian faith,"

Caitlyn James received the Millennium and Governor's scholarships from Chickasaw Nation Division of Education for maintaining a 3.95 GPA or higher. She graduated with honors from Latta High School, where she served as class President and was a four-year National Honor Society member.

Caitlyn was a member of Latta High School fast-pitch and slow-pitch softball teams, and played on the LHS girls basketball team. Latta was state runner-up in fast-pitch, and was a state semi-finalist in slow-pitch.

Caitlyn, a shortstop, was named to the Fast-Pitch All-State Team and will play in the All-State game in June.

In basketball Latta advanced to the area tournament and was Lindsay Tournament Champions. Caitlyn earned All-Tournament team honors.

She was awarded Chickasaw Nation Division of Youth and Family 12th grade Athlete of the Year honors and received



Lindsey Elliott and Caitlyn James displaying the All-State awards they received during the annual Fellowship of Christian Athletes banquet. The event is conducted at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

a Youth and Family scholarship for Pontotoc County.

"I was overwhelmed to receive this award," Caitlyn said. "It was a real honor to be recognized by the FCA in an organization with so many talented individuals."

Caitlyn will attend East Central University this fall. She received a four-year Presidential Plus scholarship from ECU and plans to major in special education.

Lindsey Elliott received the Millennium and Governor's scholarships from Chickasaw Nation Division of Education for maintaining a 3.95 GPA or higher.

Lindsey graduated with honors from

Ada High school. She was a four-year member/secretary of her school's chapter of the National Honor Society, and was selected for the Academic All-State softball team. She has been part of FCA since junior high school.

"I was honored to be in a pool of such eclectic students

and to be recognized as a leader in my community," Lindsey said. "The FCA is such a wonderful organization and I am proud to be a part of it."

Lindsey played on the varsity softball team at Ada and plans to continue her softball career in college. She will attend ECU this fall and plans to major in elementary education.

Lindsey and Caitlyn attend church regularly, participate in FCA camps and gatherings, have completed several public service projects and promote a Christian lifestyle not only through their words but by their actions.

FCA Allstate Awards are presented to

the top 20 to 25 FCA student athletes each year. The FCA currently has approximately 2,500 members in southern Oklahoma and over 15,000 members statewide.

Sam Bradford, University of Oklahoma quarterback, was the keynote speaker and presented awards to the 23 recipients receiving Allstate honors.

"Governor Anoatubby and Jay Keel have been very supportive of the FCA," Thomsen said. "The leadership of the Chickasaw Nation and their supportive partnership with the FCA has promoted positive ideals in lives of Chickasaw youth, producing several successful FCA members year after year."

FCA Allstate honors are awarded to Christian athletes who are in their senior year of high school. Students must be nominated by their local FCA chapter, demonstrate their Christian faith in and out of school, attend FCA camp, excel in school athletics and academics, and be an all around role model through their faith and devotion to a Christian lifestyle.

FCA was founded in 1954 in Oklahoma and is now the largest Christian student organization in the United States. The FCA's goal is to challenge coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world through their Christian faith.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Native American Junior Open Set June 4

ARDMORE, Okla. - The sixth annual Native American Junior Open Golf tournament is set for Saturday, June 4 at Ardmore's Lakeview Golf Course. On-site registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

The tournament is open to all Native American boys and girls ages 8-18. The event is hosted by the Chickasaw Nation and provides an opportunity for young golfers to compete in a tournament setting, in a relaxed atmosphere.

Younger players play nine holes of golf and older players complete 18.

Three age groups will compete for first, second and third place in the following categories: eight-10, 11-14 and 15 and 18 years old.

Older players with the top five scores can qualify for Team Chickasaw Golf team.

Participant fees are \$20 which include green fees, lunch and range balls. All participants must have a CDIB card.

For more information, contact Chris Alford at 580-272-5551 or email chris.alford@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Nation Kids' Golf Day June 20

ARDMORE, Okla. - The first-ever Himita Tohli Ahtohne Sholi, a child play/guardian caddy golf tournament, is set for Saturday, June 20 at Lakeview Golf Course in Ardmore.

Sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation, registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and players tee off at 2:30 p.m.

Registration fees are \$15, which include green fees, range balls and drinks.

The purpose of the event is to promote family fun and fitness.

Trophies will be awarded to the top three players in each of the following categories:

eight-10, 11-14 and 15 and 18 years old.

Contests include closest to the pin and longest drive, as well as awards for the top three players in.

There is no limit on the number of players. Players should possess a CDIB card and must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or sibling over the age of 16, who will serve as their caddy.

For more information, contact Chris Alford at 580-272-5551, or email chris.alford@chickasaw.net

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Golf clinic



Adams Tour professional golfer with Chickasaw Nation Boys and Girls Club member Trenton Valle, of Tishomingo.

Marcy Gray

April 2009 Outstanding Achievement Award recipients

Caitlyn James

Caitlyn James of Latta, Okla. is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Academics. She is the daughter of Danny and Cathy James.



Caitlyn James

Caitlyn is senior at Latta High School and was nominated by Melinda Isaacs.

"Caitlyn is a leader among her peers and greatly admired among faculty members," she said.

Caitlyn serves as the president of her senior class, plays basketball and softball and is an active member of National Honor Society, Rotary Interact and FCCLA.

Sara Miller

Sara Miller, a junior at Latta High School, is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Overall Achievement Award.



Sara Miller

Sara was nominated by Susie Stevens and is the daughter of Carla and Steve Miller.

"Sara is an outstanding young lady in many ways," Stevens said. "She is enthusiastic in every endeavor she undertakes."

Sara is a member of the National Honor Society and excels in the sciences. She competed in the state science fair in March. She is also the president of the Latta Student Council.

Madison Abney

Madison Abney, daughter of Ted and Tammy Abney, is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Citizenship.



Madison Abney

Madison is a seventh

grader at Latta Middle School and was nominated by teacher Holly Wood.

"Madison is a hard-working student who approaches her tasks with a positive attitude," Ms. Wood said. "I can always count on Madison to do her best work."

Madison enjoys basketball, softball and golf. She is also a member of 4-H and likes to show goats, fish and ride her four wheeler.

Nicholas Scott

Nicholas Scott is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Overall Achievement Award. He is the son of Christopher and Denise Scott and is a fifth grader at Fox Road Elementary School in Hughson, California.



Nicholas Scott

Nicholas was nominated by Principal Mark Taylor.

"Nicholas has a commitment to excellence and I commend him for his efforts," Mr. Taylor said.

Nicholas plays the trumpet and has played soccer, football and baseball. His future plans include going to college and playing professional sports.

Haven Nutt

Haven Nutt, daughter of Houston and Diana Nutt, is the April 2009 Recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Theatre/Drama.



Haven Nutt

Haven is a senior at Oxford High School in Oxford, Mississippi. She was nominated by teacher John Davenport.

"Haven is highly skilled both on and offstage," Mr. Davenport said. "I have enjoyed watching her grow as an actress and as a young theatre professional."

Besides theatre, Haven has participated in basketball and was the Oxford High School mascot.

Jason Dollar

Jason Dollar, a fourth grader at Tishomingo Elementary School, is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Leadership Award.



Jason Dollar

He is the son of Billy Dollar and Crystal Deaton and was nominated by teacher Rosanna Easterling.

"Jason is a high achiever, always participating in classroom discussion and projects," Ms. Easterling said.

Jason enjoys sports and has been the Student of the Month and on the Governor's Honor Roll.

His future plans include playing football in college and the NFL.

Caitlynn Sparlin

Caitlynn Sparlin, a fourth grader at Tishomingo Elementary School, is the recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Award for Outstanding Achievement in Academics.



Caitlynn Sparlin

She is the daughter of Joey and Claire Sparlin and was nominated by Rosanna Easterling.

"Caitlynn is an outstanding Chickasaw student," Ms. Easterling said. "She is very disciplined and always sets goals for herself."

Caitlynn was on the Superintendent's Honor Roll this semester and has been listed on the Governor's Honor Roll.

She enjoys reading, playing basketball, softball and golf. Her future plans are to attend OU and play basketball.

Neely Wood

Neely Wood, daughter of Scott Wood

and Patricia Wood, is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Academics.

Neely is a fourth grader at Tishomingo Elementary School and was nominated by Rosanna Easterling.



Neely Wood

"Neely's studies are very important to her," Ms. Easterling said. "She has a lot of determination and accepts any challenges."

Neely has been on both the Chickasaw Honor Roll and Tishomingo schools honor roll every year.

She enjoys playing basketball, softball and cheerleading and is a member of the Chickasaw Nation Boys and Girls Club.

Her future plans include attending the University of Oklahoma and becoming a professional fast-pitch softball player or basketball player.

Bethany Easley

Bethany Easley, daughter of Sheila Easley and Andrew Wade, is the April 2009 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Academics.



Bethany Easley

She is an eighth grader at Pickett-Center Elementary School and was nominated by John Stevenson.

"Bethany is always a good student," Mr. Stevenson said. "She possesses the ability and desire to be successful in life."

Bethany is the team captain of her basketball team and competed in the state Spelling Bee in March.

Her future plans include going to OU and traveling.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Tribal School to Work students now making careers

Eleven Chickasaw students enrolled in the Chickasaw Nation School to Work program completed coursework at area schools last month.

"We are very proud of all the Chickasaw School to Work students and the recent accomplishment of the graduates," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "We wish them well as they move into their professional careers and bachelor studies."

The Chickasaw Nation School to Work program allows students to work in on-the-job training, or internship programs, when not in the classroom.

Typically, said program director Danny Wall, students work in tribal businesses and departments throughout the Chickasaw Nation to gain their work experience.

Students earning Associates degrees from Murray State College include:

Andrea Johns, Business Administra-

tion

Cortie Lancaster, Accounting
Erica Minor, Broadcast Journalism
Tessa Truett, General Studies

Students earning certifications of completion from Pontotoc Technology Center:

Lisa Hatton, Computer Information Systems
Daniel Cardin, Computer Information Systems
Jessica Bevins, Business Information Systems
Denise Little, Business Information Systems

Hatton, Bevins, and Little have all secured employment with the Chickasaw Nation as a result of their on-the-job training in the School to Work program.

Three students earned bachelor degrees from East Central University, including Ginger Sanders, Legal Studies;

Josh Bess, Education; and Rachel Coon, Medical Technology.

Sanders graduated with high honors, a 3.5-4.0 grade point average, and wore a feather honor stole courtesy of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education. She also received a graduation watch from the Division for earning a 3.5 or higher grade point average.

Bess graduated with a grade point average 3.0-3.4 and wore an honor stole during ECU's May 9 commencement exercises.

Other students celebrated achievements during May, including Nicky McNeely and Kara Payne who were both named as "Who's Who Among College Students."

McNeely, 51, is a senior at ECU and majoring in accounting. He was nominated by the East Central University School of Business.

Payne attends ECU where she is ma-

joring in Business Administration and Health Information Management. She also works with the tribe's Vocational Rehabilitation Services as a Data Entry Clerk in the on-the-job training program.

Another School to Work student, Taloa Birdshead, placed fourth in Medical Terminology during the statewide Health Occupations Students of America competition, conducted in April.

School to Work student Pamela Filippelli was awarded the 2009 ECU School of Business Student Business Plan Competition Awards. Her group project was also selected for Best Business Presentation. Each group member received a monetary award and had a photo taken with former National Football League quarterback Fran Tarkenton, who served as guest speaker of the awards presentation.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw students receive over \$75,000 in scholarships

Over \$75,000 in scholarships were awarded during the Chickasaw Nation 2009 Student Appreciation Night, April 28, at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center in Ada, Okla.

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Education and Division of Youth and Family Service recognized more than 100 Chickasaw high school students from across Oklahoma and several states throughout the U.S.

The Division of Education recognized outstanding Chickasaw students for the Governor's, Lt. Governor's, Legislators' and Johnson-O'Malley Scholarship awards, as well as Millennium Scholarship awards.

The Division of Youth and Family Services awarded Chickasaw students with male and female "Student of the Year" awards in academics, athletics, music and art.

Youth HELPS Scholarships were presented to students within the Pontotoc, Pickens and Tishomingo legislative districts.

Outstanding senior members of the Metal Mayhem Robotics team were awarded with Chickasaw Nation Innovation Scholarships.

Scholarships and award recipients are:

Millennium Scholarship recipients (2.5 GPA or higher) - \$1,000:

Shelly Aiken, Washington High School
Tobias Blevins, Mill Creek High School
Codie Bolin, Dickson High School
Brianna Bryant, Lexington High School
Patricia Cornish, Latta High School
Hailey Craighead, Ardmore High School
Justin Douillard, Keys High School
Jerris Egge, Hemet High School

Lindsey Elliott, Ada High School
Patrick Ferris, Wapanucka High School
Callie Fussell, Piedmont High School
Lori Gibson, Tomball High School
Kara Gilbert, Carbondale Community High School
Blake Gruenberg, Claremore High School
Timothy Hardin, Madill High School
Joshua Hatton, Byng High School
Caroline Hawkins, Norman High School
Caitlyn James, Latta High School
Kaitlyn Jennings, Duncan High School
Shandy Johnson, Elmore City-Pernell High School
Abrina Kneeland, Miami High School
Hannah Landreth, Jenks High School
Taylor Martin, Purcell High School
Kaityln Mayner, Huntingtown High School
Brittany McLaury, Dickson High School
Hallea Middleton, Wanette High School
Katy Mullican, Bethany High School
Brian Pickens, Moore High School
Kasey Pierce, Norman North High School
Cheyenne Pinkerman, Big Pasture High School
Rachel Roberts, Notre Dame High School
Wesley Ross, Calvary Academy
Maria Santillan, Hugo High School
Ethan Schuth, Durant High School
Seth Schwenn, Lawton MacArthur High School
Megan Scott, Ada High School
Sarah Smith, Plainview High School
Elizabeth Speaks, Hulbert High School
Kelsie Sweat, Madill High School

Colin Tapp, Prague High School
Steven Thompson, Grapevine High School
Zachary Thompson, Miami Trace High School
Tyla Truett, Roff High School
Kelci Wallace, Washington High School
Sarah Wallace, Starkville High School
Kayla Watkins, Dibble High School
Leslie Wesberry, Tishomingo High School
John West, Mill Creek High School
Hunter White, Silo High School
Justin Wolfe, Thackerville High School

Governor's Scholarship recipients (3.95 GPA or higher) - \$500:

Shelly Aiken, Washington High School
Chelsea Burris, Eufaula High School
Misty Clifton, Sallisaw High School
Jerris Egge, Hemet High School
Lindsey Elliott, Ada High School
Whitney Evans, Eufaula High School
Callie Fussell, Piedmont High School
Timothy Hardin, Madill High School
Caroline Hawkins, Norman High School
Caitlyn James, Latta High School
Canaan Johnson, Wewoka High School
Lance Keenan, Ada High School
Hannah Landreth, Jenks High School
Douglas Lee, Coalgate High School
Taylor Martin, Purcell High School
Matthew Mayes, Purcell High School
Kaityln Mayner, Huntingtown High School
Brittany McLaury, Dickson High School
Emma Mosshart-Keel, Stephen F. Austin High School
Katy Mullican, Bethany High School

Cala Murry, Placer High School
Brian Pickens, Moore High School
Cheyenne Pinkerman, Big Pasture High School
Paige Robertson, Owasso High School
Wesley Ross, Calvary Academy
Ethan Schuth, Durant High School
Seth Schwenn, Lawton MacArthur High School
Megan Scott, Ada High School
Kelci Wallace, Washington High School
Emily Wilson, Brookville High School
Justin Wolfe, Thackerville High School

Lt. Governor's Scholarship recipients (3.90 GPA or higher) - \$400:

Lindsay Grisham, Cabot High School
Joshua Hatton, Byng High School
Billie Mobley, Comanche High School
Maria Santillan, Hugo High School
Matthew Simon, Purcell High School
Sarah Smith, Plainview High School
Taylor Smith, Newcastle High School
Tyler Souther, Edmond Santa Fe

Legislators' Scholarship recipients (3.85 GPA or higher) - \$350:

Patrick Ferris, Wapunucka High School
Leigh Anne Fessler, Wagoner High School
Kara Gilbert, Carbondale Comm. High School
Shannon Green, Sapulpa High School
Sarah Hicks, Achille High School
Aaron Montoya, Centennial High School
Colin Tapp, Prague High School
Danielle Taylor, Bullard High School
Marissa Wright, Norman High School

SEE 2009 STUDENT APPRECIATION, PAGE 28



Several students were recognized with Millennium Scholarships. The Millennium Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship presented to high school seniors achieving a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher. First row from left, Maria Santillan, Hallea Middleton, Patricia Cornish, Kaitlyn Jennings, Lindsey Elliott, Caitlyn James, Hailey Craighead, Elizabeth Speaks, Joshua Hatton. Second row from left, Steven Thompson, Shandy Johnson, Megan Scott, Justin Douillard, Kelsie Sweat, Callie Fussell, Timothy Hardin, Colin Tapp. Third row from left, Ethan Schuth, Taylor Martin, Codie Bolin.

Mike McKee



The Governor's Scholarship is \$500 scholarship awarded to high school seniors who have a 3.95 or higher grade point average, or who have been selected class valedictorian or salutatorian. Front row from left, Timothy Hardin, Megan Scott, Chelsea Burris, Caitlyn James, Lindsey Elliott. Back row from left, Canaan Johnson, Whitney Evans, Taylor Martin, Callie Fussell, Ethan Schuth.

2009 STUDENT APPRECIATION | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Johnson O'Malley Scholarship recipients - \$300:

Taylor Martin, Purcell High School
Megan Scott, Ada High School

Youth & Family award recipients:

Tenth grade awards:

Student of the Year – Katy Boyd, Ardmore High School

Athlete of the Year – Tree Cohee, Ardmore High School

Artist of the Year – Andrew Riesen, Ardmore High School

Eleventh grade awards:

Student of the Year – Jacob Hollenbeck, Dickson High School

Student of the Year – Sara Miller, Latta High School

Athlete of the Year – Sara Miller, Latta

High School

Artist of the Year – Laura Ash, Ardmore High School

Twelfth grade awards:

Student of the Year – Mayson Husband, Latta High School

Student of the Year – Taylor Martin, Purcell High School

Athlete of the Year – Leslie Wesberry, Tishomingo High School

Athlete of the Year – Caitlyn James, Latta High School

Musician of the Year – Taylor Martin, Purcell High School

Musician of the Year – Patricia Cornish, Latta High School

Artist of the Year – Nickolas Brown, Dickson High School

Artist of the Year – Brittany McLaury, Dickson High School

Youth HELPS Scholarship recipients - \$500:

Pontotoc District:

Caitlyn James, Latta High School
Mayson Husband, Latta High School
Lindsay Grisham, Cabot, AR High School

Tishomingo District:

Leslie Wesberry, Tishomingo High School

Pickens District:

Codie Bolin, Dickson High School
Taylor Martin, Purcell High School
Hailey Craighead, Ardmore High School

Chickasaw Foundation Scholarship

Candace Williams

Robotics Scholarship Seniors:

Candace Williams

Jeremy Wingard

Ethan Priddy

Amber Huffman

Ada Football Camp Educational stipend for leadership

Bailey Mairiel

Papi White

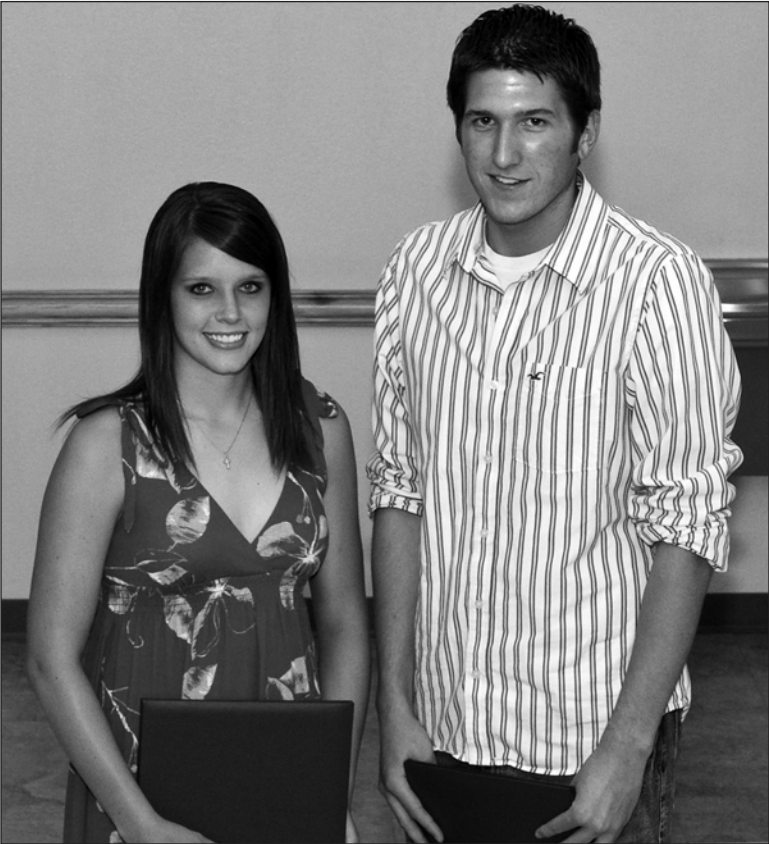
Cody Shepherd

For more information about scholarships within the division of education or the division of youth and family, visit www.chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.



The Lt. Governor's Scholarship is a \$400 scholarship awarded to high school seniors who have a 3.90 or higher grade point average, or who have been selected class valedictorian or salutatorian. From left, Maria Santillan, Billie Mobley, Joshua Hatton.



Johnson-O'Malley Scholarship recipients Megan Scott and Taylor Martin.



The Legislators' Scholarship is a \$350 scholarship awarded to high school seniors who have a 3.85 or higher grade point average, or who have been selected class valedictorian or salutatorian. From left, Marissa Wright, Colin Tapp, Shannon Green, Aaron Montoya, Sarah Hicks.



Senior members of Metal Mayhem received \$250 Innovation Scholarships for their involvement in robotics. From left Candace Williams, Jeremy Wingard, Ethan Priddy, Amber Huffman.



Chickasaw Foundation Scholarship Candace Williams

Culture comes alive at Chikashsha Reunion, June 26-27

Hundreds of Chickasaws and guests from across the country are expected to celebrate Chickasaw culture and tradition at the 12th Annual Chikashsha Reunion June 26-27 at Kullihoma Stomp Ground.

This event is free and open to the public.

"Chikashsha Reunion is always a wonderful event that unites Chickasaws from around the country and reminds them of the culture and heritage that bind us together," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "It is not only a time of fellowship, but a great opportunity for Chickasaws of all ages to learn more about their culture, language and heritage and share it with others."

This year's feature events include an archery shoot and a traditional blow gun competition.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, the archery shoot will be divided into youth (11 to 17) and adult (18 and older) categories. The blowgun competition will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Other Chickasaw games will also be played, including Squirrel Stick throwing and Loksi (turtle) races.

A traditional meal, including pashofa,

fry bread, salt meat, grape dumplings and more will be served at noon Saturday. A hot dog wagon will be available for lunch on Friday and a hamburger fry will take place 6 p.m. that evening.

There will also be a variety of Chickasaw cultural demonstrations, including storytelling, moccasin making, ballstick making, beadwork, language, traditional clothing making, basket weaving and various other crafts.

Social dances will begin 7 p.m. Friday and 9 p.m. Saturday.

A stomp dance will begin midnight Saturday.

Overnight camping spaces are available, including tent spaces and a limited number of RV hook ups. Participants are encouraged to bring their own chairs.

To reach the site, travel to the

Kullihoma sign seven miles northeast of Ada on State Highway 1, then travel three miles east and one mile south.

Volunteers are still needed to help with various activities.

For information, or to volunteer, call the Cultural Resources department at (580) 332-8685.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.



At left, Chelsea Wedlow and a "little one" enjoy some beading at Jerry Underwood's table. Above, a young girl receives language information from senior language master Stanley Smith and language specialist JoAnn Ellis. Chikashsha Reunion is June 26-27.

2009 STUDENT APPRECIATION

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 28



Educational stipend awarded for leadership during summer youth football camp, these members received \$250 stipends. From left, Bailey Mairel and Papi White.



The Youth HELPS scholarship acknowledges and assists students continuing their education by attending a college, university or vocational/technical institution. Pickens District recipients were, from left, Taylor Martin, Hailey Craighead, Codie Bolin.



The Youth HELPS scholarship acknowledges and assists students continuing their education by attending a college, university or vocational/technical institution. Pontotoc District recipients were, Mayson Husband and Caitlyn James.



10th Grade Youth and Family Male and Female Students of the Year Awards from left, Andrew Riesen, Katy Boyd, Tree Cohee.



11th Grade Youth and Family Male and Female Students of the Year Awards from left, Sara Miller, Laura Ash, Jacob Hollenbeck.



12th Grade Youth and Family Male and Female Students of the Year Awards from left Brittany McLaury, Mayson husband, Patricia Cornish, Caitlyn James. Back row from left, Nickolas Brown, Taylor Martin.

Amelia Jeanette Farris



Amelia Jeanette Farris is a 2009 graduate of Durant High School, Durant, Okla. She is the daughter of James Farris and Barbara and Matt Earles and sister of Aren Earles. Amelia's student activities include being an active member of the Durant Key Club for four years, Key Club vice-president (one year) and current president (two years). She is a two-year member of the Bryan County Turning Point

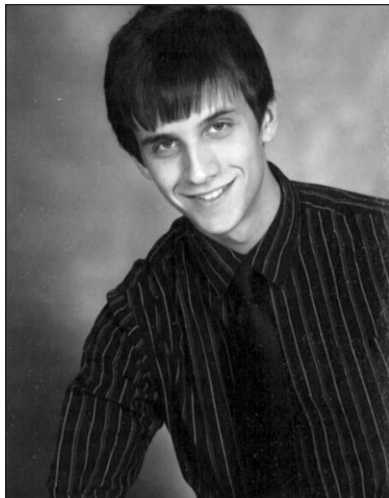
Coalition, a four-year member of the Durant High School Choir and serves as Durant High School's lion mascot (two years). Her honor awards include receiving a two-year varsity letter award in cheerleading for her performance as mascot, Varsity Choir medals and multiple patches and medals for her active role in the Kiwanis Key Club community service organization. She enjoys camping, kicking back with her friends, listening to music, singing and playing with her little brother Aren. Amelia plans to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, and later transfer to Washington University at Washington State to pursue a degree in wildlife management.

Zachary Thompson

Zachary Thompson is a 2009 graduate of Miami Trace High School, Washington Court House, Ohio. He is the son of Guy and Diana Thompson. He is the grandson of Eugene R. Thompson, Jr., the great-grandson of Eugene R. (Snake) Thompson and nephew of TeAta.

Zak's activities included the National Honor Society, school and community theater productions, choir, band and journalism. His hobbies are guitar, piano and computer graphics. He is a recipient of the Chickasaw Nation 2009 Millennium Scholarship award.

He plans to attend Bowling Green (Ohio) State University, in the fall to major in acting/directing.



Tia Jené Pickens



Tia Jené Pickens is a 2009 graduate of Ardmore High School, Ardmore, Okla. She is the daughter of Craig and Alayne Pickens. She is the granddaughter of Daphne Brown, Sherman Pickens, Arlene Miller and Kenneth Archie.

Tia is an AP student and attends classes at Murray State College, Tishomingo, Okla., through Ardmore Higher Education.

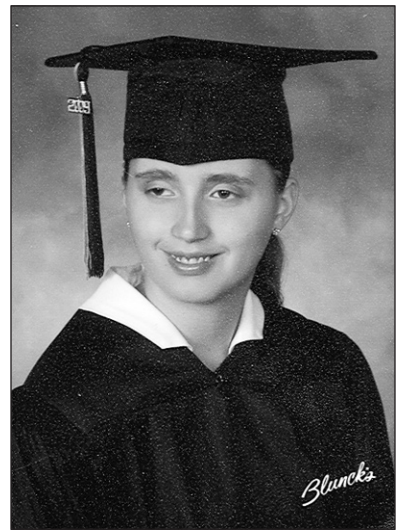
Congratulations to our little princess!

Jamie Diane Goit

Jamie Diane Goit is a 2009 graduate of Wanette High School, Wanette, Okla. She is the daughter of Daniel and Sherri Goit. She is the granddaughter of Betty (Green) Rhynes, of Lexington, Okla., and Mary Jane Lord, of California.

Jamie attended the Wanette School System for 13 years. She was active in basketball, cheerleading and Camp Fire USA. Her hobbies include photography, watching movies and training dogs.

She plans to attend vo-tech to pursue a computer science degree.



Jaclyn Nicole Nafus

Jaclyn Nicole Nafus is a 2009 graduate of Commerce High School, Commerce, Texas. She is the daughter of Juanita McGaugh Nafus and the granddaughter of Mary Jane Ward McGaugh and Jack McGaugh.

Jaclyn is a kind person and has been a good friend to almost everyone she meets. She is happy and has accomplished being in band for six years, a member of the drill team for three years, basketball for five years, volleyball for two years, track for three years and CHS Lady Tigers softball for one year.

Jaclyn, I guess you being the baby of the family we all thought this day would never come. But here it is your time to shine. We are all very proud of you and will be her always to share in your happiness, your tears of joy and to help you with anything in your lifetime. We are proud of all that you have accomplished while in high school and enjoyed each moment that we watched your games, your dance and your music. We know you will accomplish all your future goals because after all you are the baby of the family. Our love surrounds you each and every day. We also know you are going to have a great future and will become one of the greatest known women of the decade.

A Poem for Jaclyn from her mom:

Our lives can change with every breath we take. We've all got meanness in us, but we've got goodness to, and the only thing worth living for is the good. And that is why we have to be sure to pass it on. So let go of what is gone and hold on to what you've got each other. (Written by: Where the Heart is)

Jaclyn plans to attend Hillsboro College or Texas State Technical College.

We love you with all our hearts and soul. Congratulations Baby Girl!

Mom, Christopher, Delisa, Haylee and Chandler



Courtney Nicole Reeves

Courtney Nicole Reeves is a 2009 graduate of Alton High School, Alton, Mo. She is the daughter of Chris and Angie Reeves. She is the granddaughter of LeRoy and Betty Howard and a fifth great-granddaughter of Cyrus Harris, past Governor of the Chickasaw Nation.

Courtney was a member of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Christian Youth Fellowship, T-M. She was in show choir for four years receiving five state #1 ratings, eight state #2 ratings, five district #1 ratings and six district #2 ratings. She was active in basketball, softball and cross country.

Courtney plans to attend Ozark Technical College at Springfield, Mo., and later transfer to Missouri State University to pursue a major in elementary education and a minor in music.



Candace Williams

Candace Williams is a 2009 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Marilyn Coltz and Quintin Williams. She is the granddaughter of Floyd and Elizabeth Williams and the late Larry and Nancy Coltz.

Candace is attending cosmetology classes at the Pontotoc Vo-tech, Ada, and will graduate in December 2009.

Her plans are to attend college.

Candace, we are so proud of you!



Ryan Walker

Ryan Walker is a 2009 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Curtis and Cheryl Walker. She is the granddaughter of the late J.C. Alexander, Sr., the late Lois Keel Alexander, and the late Ralph Walker and Ruthlene Johnson, of Allen, Okla.

Ryan played tennis for four years and was listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* twice. She enjoys drawing and learning the Chickasaw language. She participated in the master/apprentice program for one year with the Chickasaw Nation.

She plans to attend Pontotoc Vo-tech for computers and then join the U.S. Air Force.

Congratulations Ry Ry!

Love,

Mom, Dad and Ri lo



Christa Ann Cunningtubby



Christa Ann Cunningtubby is a 2009 graduate of Western Heights High School, Oklahoma City. She is the daughter of James and Gina Cunningtubby. She is the granddaughter of Judy and Ray Cunningtubby.

Christa was in choir for four years, active in the Native American club, served as an office aid and will graduate with honors.

She plans to attend Oklahoma City Community College for two years then transfer to Oklahoma Baptist University to major in accounting.

2009 COLLEGE GRADUATES

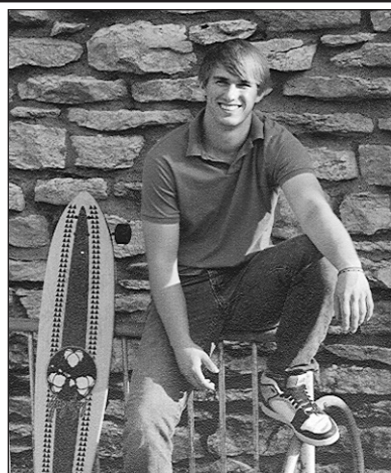
Jacob C. Crabb



Jacob C. Crabb is a 2009 graduate of John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark. He is the son of Rick and Jenette Crabb, of Waxahatchi, Texas.

Jacob received his bachelor of science degree in outdoor leadership ministries. He is a prospective Navy Supply Corps officer candidate. After his graduation this fall from Officer's Candidate School at Newport, R.I., Jacob will report to the Navy Supply School, at Athens, Ga.

Lucas Tuckel



Lucas Tuckel is a 2009 graduate of Bonner Springs High School, Bonner Springs, Kan. He is the son of Steve and Lea Tuckel. He is the grandson of Glenn and Delores Tuckel.

Lucas played football for four years.

He plans to attend Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kan., to study mechanical design.

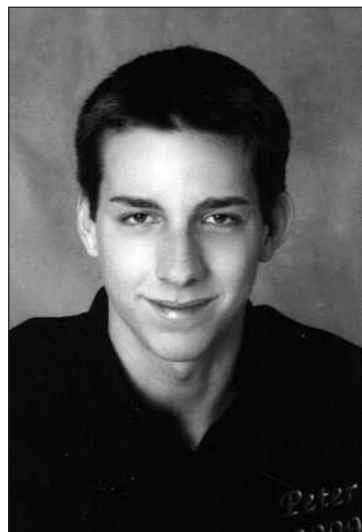
Peter Michael Parr, Jr.

Peter Michael Parr, Jr., is a 2009 graduate of Thunderbird High School, Phoenix, Ariz. He is the son of Lonna and Bob Barrett. His mom is a descendant of Leona Faye Wilson, a full blood Chickasaw.

Peter will receive an endorsement diploma for taking advanced placement courses and earning extra credit hours above the standard graduation requirements. He recently received a certificate for participation in the Congressional Artist show this past spring where he competed with other art students across the city in the iAn Artist Discovery project. In April, Peter won first place for the Thunderbird High school Poetry contest. Peter is very proud of his native heritage and plans to pursue his dream of becoming an artist.

His plans are to attend college in the fall and study art and music.

We are very proud of his accomplishments and will look forward to more great things to come for him in the future. Congratulations Peter.



Crystal Dawn Price



EDMOND, Okla. - A Chickasaw student has recently graduated with honors with a communications degree.

Crystal Dawn Price graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in mass communication from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Ms. Price is a member of the Kappa Tau Alpha national honor society and was awarded the society's top scholar award for maintaining a grade point average of at least 3.95.

While in college, Ms. Price was an award-winning broadcaster. She anchored, produced and reported for the college tv station, KUCO.

Prior to transferring to UCO, Ms. Price attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant. She was selected a Top Ten Freshman at SOSU and was first runner-up in the Miss Indian SOSU pageant. She was also active in Native American Council and the college radio station, KSSU.

She graduated from Durant High School in 2005.

Ms. Price is employed at KOKH Fox 25 News in Oklahoma City. Her goal is to serve as a national correspondent for CBS in New York.

She is the daughter of Kelly and Ethel (Sue) Price, of Durant.

Her grandparents are Donald and Jackie Price, of Ravia, Okla., and Suzanne Price, of Meeker, Okla., and the late Jack and Elsie Seawright.

Letters to Editor:

Thanks to our tribe

Letter to the Editor of Chickasaw Times, Message to the Chief Governor of the Chickasaw People and his staff,

I want to take some time from my life to thank you for the wonderful job you have done for our people. I see Children getting an education that could never afford it. I see Elders like myself having health services that they never could afford, help with food. People having food brought to their homes that cannot get to the senior site to eat. Nurses driving miles to care for the elders in their homes and aids cleaning their houses. Clothes bought for Children, free school meals. Lawns mowed for the Elders, help with utilities. Building beautiful homes. Employing thousands of our people. These are the most important things you do and oh there is so much more I could never get them all in this article.

If you ran for President of the United States of America maybe we wouldn't be in the mess we are in. I was invited to a special

birthday party for my cousin Daisy Blackbird, and there you sat with your arm around her wishing her Happy 105. With this kind of love how can we as a people ever loose.

Special Thanks to Eddie Easterling, Meredith Morris, Brooke Williams, Amber Underwood, Beth Alexander, Luther John, Dennis Underwood, Cara Criswell, Robbie Blair, and Holly Easterling. Each and ever one of you have made life easier for me and my family. And for this I will always be grateful and love you. Life has not always been good to our tribe But oh are we the chosen few today.

Teata Schroeder

Losing our house to a fire, the tribe was there to help

May 6, 2009

Halito,

I would like to thank the Chickasaw Nation for the assistance that they provided me and my family after our home was destroyed by wild fires on

the Thursday before Easter. We lost everything! My wife and I are still in disbelief! I lost my chickens, dogs and horse. My wife lost her beautiful garden and sanctuary with her koi pond! The Chickasaw Nation, with the assistance of Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, my niece, Sandra D. Pickens and Mr. Cornelius who works for Housing in Ada, made it possible for us to get temporary housing and monetary assistance. We have a long road ahead of us but through the Grace of God, we will make it. I just want to thank everyone for helping us out! The Red Cross was on top of things the next day; my employer Best Buy and Jehovah Baptist Church helped us out, also. I want to thank all my friends and family for offering assistance and being a sounding board! Please keep my wife and myself in your prayers! Thank you all so very, very much!

Yakoke!

Otto Brown, Jr. and Teartie Brown

True or False?

Bank2 has home loans designed especially for Native Americans?

It's TRUE...

Bank2 has a lending team strictly devoted to meeting the needs of Native Americans. Some banks claim to serve Indian Country; at Bank2 we are 100% Native American owned. Shouldn't your next home loan be with us?

Learn more at www.bank2online.com
or call us today at 1-877-409-2265.

The Nation's Leading Native American Home Lender

BANK2
Twice the Bank

Equal Housing Lender
FDIC

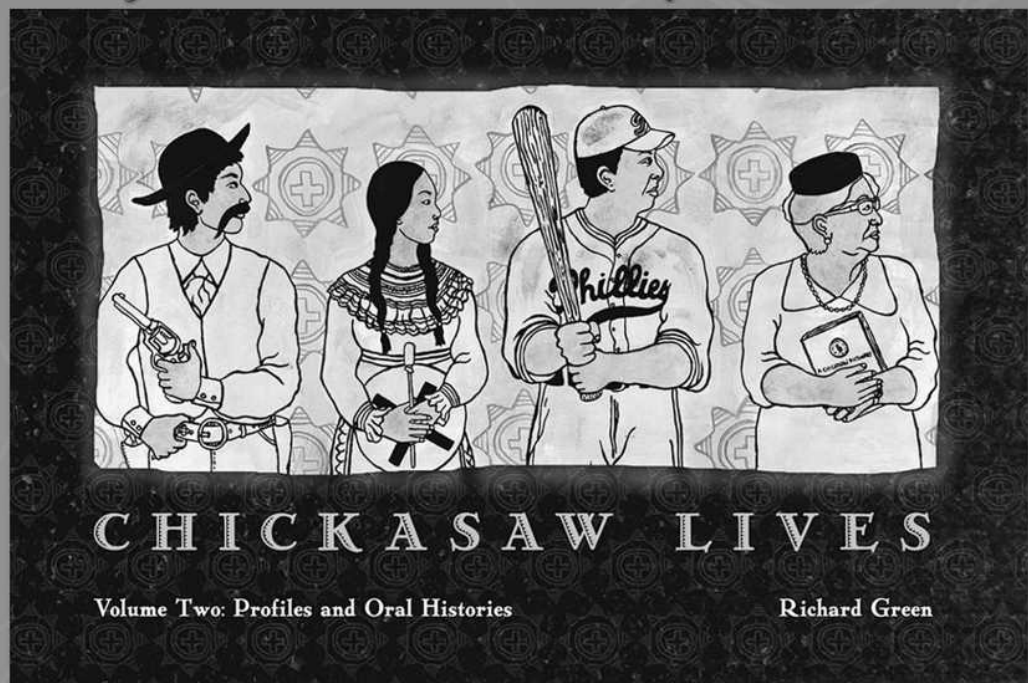
Now Available from the Chickasaw Press

Chickasaw Lives, Volume Two: Profiles and Oral Histories by Richard Green

When Richard Green was named Tribal Historian of the Chickasaw Nation in 1994, one of his first tasks was to interview individual Chickasaws and write about their life stories. *Chickasaw Lives, Volume Two: Profiles and Oral Histories* is a unique compilation of that work.

The second in a series to be published, this book contains 32 articles focusing on tribal members, including extraordinary performers, artists, athletes and warriors.

Tribal Historian Richard Green is the founding editor of *The Journal of Chickasaw History* and author of the award-winning biography *Tē Ata: Chickasaw Storyteller, American Treasure* and *Chickasaw Lives, Volume One: Explorations in Tribal History*.



The Chickasaw Press is a department of the Chickasaw Nation Division of History and Culture.

www.chickasawpress.com

(580) 559-0547

2009 summer tribal camps, academies in June, July and August

The Chickasaw Nation is gearing up for an exciting summer of camps and academies. Each year the Youth and Family, Culture, Education, and other tribal divisions focuses on providing educational activities for youth to explore new opportunities.

Many camps and academies have application deadlines approaching, including the following:

Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Youth Academy

June 29-July 2

Application deadline June 12

Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Headquarters, 1130 West Main, Ada, Okla.

This academy is exciting opportunity for young Native Americans to explore a career in law enforcement. Forty Native American youth will be selected based on three letters of recommendation, and a completed application.

For more information about the Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Youth Academy, contact Lighthorse Police Department at 580-436-7267.

Champions Football Clinic

July 9-11

Application deadline June 15

Ada, Okla.

Open to male students ages seven to 18; this three-day clinic teaches the fundamentals of football, teamwork and leadership. The camp is led by veteran coach Ken Heupel and features former University of Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel and several current and former collegiate and professional players. For more information, contact Seth Tinsley at 580-272-5505.

Chikashsha Saya

July 13-15

Application deadline June 15

Camp Goddard, near Davis, Okla.

Chickasaw heritage and culture lessons are top priorities at this camp, which is open to students ages

eight to 12. For more information, contact Clovis Hamilton at 580-272-5505.

FCA Competitors Camp

July 10-14

Application deadline June 15

Camp WOW, Gerty, Okla.

This overnight camp combines the great facilities and activities of Camp Wow with the athleticism and competition that has defined the Fellowship of Christian Athletes ministry for more than 50 years. For more information, contact Melissa Wilkerson at 580-310-6620.

Softball Clinics

July 20-21 – beginner and intermediate players

July 21-22 – advanced players

Application deadline June 15

Latta High School Softball Field. Ada, Okla.

Open to Chickasaw girls ages 10 to 18. Former and current college and high school coaches and players teach the importance of positive attitudes, conditioning, pitching and catching techniques and teamwork. For more information, contact Chris Alford at 580-272-5551.

Camp Yakni Moma Alphisa

Justice for a Nation

July 16-17

Application deadline June 15

Chickasaw Nation Community Center, Ada, Okla.

This two-day clinic is designed to educate students ages 10-18 about the operations of the tribe's court system. The camp emphasizes leadership and personal growth. For more information, contact Connie Tillery at 580-235-0281 or 1-800-479-1455.

Chickasaw Language Immersion Family Camp

July 23-25

Application deadline June 26

The Tatanka Ranch, Stroud, Okla.

This camp is designed to promote the use of the Chickasaw language within Chickasaw families. Camp activities include kayaking, canoeing, swimming, and other activities with primary instruction being through Chickasaw language. Camp participation is limited to 10 families on a first-come, first-served basis. For an application and more information, contact Cedric Sunray at 580-399-0655.

Himitta Alhiha Hochokoshkomo

The Youth Are Playing

August 3-5

Application deadline July 30, 2009

Carter Seminary Gym, Ardmore, Okla.

Himitta Alhiha Hochokoshkomo is designed to promote the use of the Chickasaw language in an interactive, athletic environment. Camp participation is limited to 30 campers per day and participants must have transportation to and from camp. For an application and more information, contact Cedric Sunray at 580-399-0655.

Tanumpo Hosa Apisa Clinic

August 5-7

Application deadline July 6

Three separate one-day clinics for students 12-18 that features gun safety and marksmanship techniques, students use CO2 powered pellet guns to learn Olympic-style target shooting. Lighthorse officers and other certified instructors will teach the clinics. For more information, contact Seth Tinsley at 580-272-5505.

All applicants must include a copy of the camper's CDIB card and Chickasaw youth must also include a copy of their citizenship card. Submitting the application does not guarantee selection to the camp.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Dream of owning your own home? Need to Refinance? Want to make Home Improvements?



CHUKA CHUKMASI is a secondary market home loan for Chickasaw Citizens and Chickasaw Nation Employees. The Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development (CNDHTD) can help you with the financing as well as the down payment and closing costs. Through the Chuka Chukmasi home loan program, we offer Conventional, HUD 184, FHA and VA loans anywhere in the continental United States.

REFINANCING: Did you know CNDHTD can loan up to 90% of the appraised value on your home? Closing costs may be rolled into the loan, if the appraisal is high enough. Appraisal fee must be paid up front.

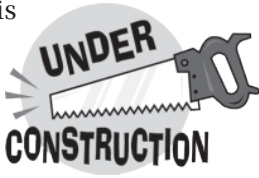
NEW CONSTRUCTION LOANS: Are you interested in building? If you have been approved for your 30 year permanent financing through Chuka Chukmasi, CNDHTD can provide an interim construction loan for you to build your home. Interim construction is available only in the State of Oklahoma. The interest rate is 5% and the term 6-9 months. During the construction phase, you will be required to make monthly interest payments on drawn borrowed funds. You will pay minimal closing costs on the construction loan at closing. Please call for further information.

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS: Do you want to make needed improvements? CNDHTD may be the answer. Maximum loan amount is \$30,000.00. The interest rate is fixed at 5% and maximum term is 10 years. You must be able to qualify for the loan, must have fee simple title and cannot already have a 2nd mortgage on the home. Home must be your primary residence. You must pay closing costs at closing. This loan is available only in the State of Oklahoma. Work must be completed by a contractor. Call for additional details.

GRANT FUNDS: Do you need help with down payment and closing costs? Chickasaw citizens may receive up to \$3,000.00 to assist with down payment and/or closing costs when purchasing a home. You must be pre-approved thru the **Chuka Chukmasi** home loan program at CNDHTD for your financing. Refinances are not eligible to receive these funds. This is a one time grant. Call for more information.

EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING: Employees of the Chickasaw Nation are eligible to apply for the **Chuka Chukmasi** home loan program thru CNDHTD. You must be pre-approved for your permanent financing through the Chuka Chukmasi home loan program. Employees may receive down payment and/or closing cost assistance in the form of a second mortgage loan.

COUNSELING: Did you know that you can receive assistance with credit counseling, credit report clean-up, budgeting, loss mitigation and early delinquency intervention? Do you want to purchase a home but you know there are credit issues that might preclude you from purchasing right now? Did you know that we have a full time counselor who can work directly with you, one-on-one, to help you become mortgage ready? Maybe your credit is ok, but you just can't seem to save enough money to get started with the process and need help with goal setting and personal budgeting. Please call **Kyra Childers at (580) 421-8817** and let her help you now.



Kay Perry
Director, GML, CHEC
(580) 421-8856

Johna Stringer
Loan Counselor
(580) 421-8845

THE CHICKASAW NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING & TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING COUNSELING & LOAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PO Box 788
111 Rosedale
Ada, OK 74820

Summer Stick
Section Head, CHEC
(580) 421-8862

Kyra Childers
Loan Services Counselor
(580) 421-8817

Summer food service program in Ada, Ardmore, Tish

The Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services Department will participate in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program. Through this program, meals will be provided to all children without charge at the dates/times listed below.

Ada Area
First Baptist Church, 328 South Harrison, Stonewall
June 8-12, 2009
Breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Lunch will be served from

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Chickasaw Nation Family Life Center, 229 W. Seabrook Road, Ada
July 1-2, 2009
A snack will be provided from 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ada High School Football Field, 223 West 18th Street
July 9-11, 2009
A snack will be provided from 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ada High School Softball Field, 223 West 18th Street
July 20-22, 2009
A snack will be provided

from 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Lunch will be served from 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Lighthouse Police Department, 1130 W. Main, Ada
August 5-6, 2009
A snack will be provided from 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Lunch will be served from noon-12:30 p.m.
Chickasaw Nation Youth and Family Services, 229 W. Seabrook Road, Ada
August 22, 2009
Lunch will be served from 11:00 a.m.-noon

Ardmore Area
Ardmore Middle School Gym, 511 Veterans Blvd.
July 1-2, 2009
A snack will be provided from 2:00-2:30 p.m.
Tishomingo Area
Chickasaw Nation Boys and Girls Club, 997 South Byrd, Tishomingo
June 1-July 31, 2009
Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m.-noon
A snack will be provided from 2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same regardless of race, color,

national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of meal service.
For more information, please contact Debbie Zachary at (580) 436-7255.
To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

Get Fresh! healthy food preparation program sets classes for area cities

Ada Nutrition Services, 518 E. Arlington
June 2: 10 a.m. and noon
June 4: 10 a.m. and noon
June 9: 10 a.m. and noon
June 11: 10 a.m. and noon
July 7: 10 a.m. and noon
July 9: 10 a.m. and noon
July 14: 10 a.m. and noon
July 16: 10 a.m. and noon
For more information, call (580) 272-5506.

Ada Family Life/Wellness Center, 229 W. Seabrook
June 3: 10 a.m. and noon
June 10: 10 a.m. and noon
June 11: 6 p.m.
July 8: 10 a.m. and noon
July 15: 10 a.m. and noon
July 16: 6 p.m.
For more information, call (580) 272-5506.

Ardmore Nutrition Services, 2350 Chickasaw Blvd.
June 2: 10 a.m. and noon
June 3: 10 a.m. and noon
June 9: 10 a.m. and noon
June 10: 10 a.m. and noon
July 7: 10 a.m. and noon
July 8: 10 a.m. and noon
July 14: 10 a.m. and noon
July 15: 10 a.m. and noon
For more information, call (580) 226-8289.

Purcell Nutrition Services, 1530 Hardcastle Blvd.
June 2: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
June 5: 10 a.m. and noon
June 9: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
June 12: 10 a.m. and noon
July 7: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
July 10: 10 a.m. and noon
July 14: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m.
July 17: 10 a.m. and noon
For more information, call (405) 527-6967.

These exciting cooking shows are free and open to the public and demonstrate healthy cooking for the entire family! Leave with recipes, nutrition education and new ideas to cook healthier every day! Classes offered on each day feature the same recipes during the times of availability.

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

Summer Cooking Class for Kids!

Friday, June 12, 2009
Ada Family Life/Wellness Center
An interactive cooking class for two age groups.
Healthy food will be prepared using the Food Guide Pyramid.
Parents are encouraged to attend this fun event with their children.
Nutrition information and kitchen safety will also be discussed.
Class size is limited. Reservations required by Tuesday, June 9. Please call (580) 559-0777.
There are helpful ways to stop using tobacco

Below is a brief list of tobacco cessation resources. For more information about tools available, call (580) 421-4591 or visit www.chickasaw.net for a full list of resources.
Tobacco Cessation Classes
Tobacco Cessation Classes are available free of charge. Below are established class dates.
June 15 - July 27
August 10 - September 21
Tobacco Cessation Classes offer basic information about tobacco, problem solving skills and social support.
Classes begin at 5:30 p.m. in the small conference room at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The sessions are every two weeks for two months. The class time is one hour.
For more information, contact Christie Byars, tobacco cessation facilitator, behavioral health department at (580) 421-4591.

HORSESHOEING

Shawn Williams
(580) 622-2876: (580) 320-3125: (580) 622-3316
Ada, Ardmore, Sulphur Area
Chickasaw Citizen



Oklahoma Optical

Oklahoma Optical is now located at 1005 North Country Club Road in Ada, Oklahoma.

A new showroom and large display area makes finding the right style more convenient for customers!

Oklahoma Optical is open to everyone.

For more information, please contact Dixie Ernst-Phillips at (580) 332-2796.





Find answers to your health questions easily, quickly and privately at CHIC - located in the lobby of the Carl Albert Indian Health Facility.



Free online access to high-quality medical and health information from the National Library of Medicine.

Trained staff to help you search for answers to your health questions.

Privacy screens, high-speed Internet connection and quality printers to make your research experience productive and comfortable.

For more information call (580) 436-3980 ext. 80919

Visit www.chicresources.net

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

Tribal Health System 'smoke free;' you can quit, too!

On May 11, 2009, all Chickasaw Nation Health System (CNHS) campuses became tobacco free in an effort to provide a healthy environment for you and your family.

As a health care organization, CNHS is committed not just to healing illness, but promoting wellness. By eliminating smoking areas, CNHS hopes to remove triggers that make smoking cessation difficult.

To assist in this transition, CNHS will offer tobacco cessation classes and a variety of other tools to assist employees.

Tobacco use harms nearly every organ of the body, causing many diseases and reducing the health of tobacco users in general. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the adverse health effects from cigarette smoking account for an estimated 438,000 deaths, or nearly one of every five deaths, each year in the United States. More deaths are caused each year by tobacco use than by all deaths from human immuno-

deficiency virus (HIV), illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, suicides and murders combined.

Researchers have found that nicotine is the psychoactive drug in tobacco products that causes dependence. According to the CDC, nicotine dependence is the most common form of chemical dependence in the United States.

Tobacco use in its many forms has negative effects on users, as well as those exposed to secondhand smoke. According to the CDC:

- Smoking causes about 90% of lung cancer deaths in men and almost 80% of lung cancer deaths in women. The risk of dying from lung cancer is more than 23 times higher among men who smoke cigarettes, and about 13 times higher among women who smoke cigarettes compared with never smokers.

- Smoking causes cancers of the bladder, oral cavity, pharynx, larynx (voice box), esophagus, cervix, kidney, lung, pancreas, and stomach, and causes acute myeloid leu-

kemia.

- Smoking causes coronary heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States. Cigarette smokers are 2-4 times more likely to develop coronary heart disease than nonsmokers.

- Cigarette smoking approximately doubles a person's risk for stroke.

- Postmenopausal women who smoke have lower bone density than women who never smoked. Women who smoke have an increased risk for hip fracture than those who have never smoked.

- Secondhand smoke contains at least 250 chemicals known to be toxic, including more than 50 that can cause cancer.

- Secondhand smoke exposure causes heart disease and lung cancer in nonsmoking adults.

- Secondhand smoke exposure causes respiratory symptoms in children and slows their lung growth.

- Secondhand smoke causes sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respi-

ratory infections, ear problems and more frequent and severe asthma attacks in children.

- Smokeless tobacco contains 28 cancer-causing agents (carcinogens). It is a known cause of human cancer, as it increases the risk of developing cancer of the oral cavity.

- Smokeless tobacco use can lead to nicotine addiction and dependence.

- Adolescents who use smokeless tobacco are more likely to become cigarette smokers.

- The good news is, while quitting tobacco can be difficult and may require several attempts, it can be done.

- Tobacco cessation can provide many health and personal benefits including:

A reduced risk of premature death. Benefits are greater for people who stop at earlier ages, but cessation is beneficial at all ages.

- Those who stop tobacco use will feel better, breathe easier and have more energy. Cessation also decreases chances of getting sick.

- Smoking cessation lowers the risk for lung and other

types of cancer. The risk for developing cancer declines with the number of years of smoking cessation.

- Risk for coronary heart disease, stroke and peripheral vascular disease is reduced after smoking cessation. Coronary heart disease risk is substantially reduced within 1 to 2 years of cessation.

- Cessation reduces respiratory symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath. The rate of decline in lung function is slower among persons who quit smoking.

- Women who stop smoking before or during pregnancy reduce their risk for adverse reproductive outcomes such as infertility, pregnancy complications, premature birth, low-birth-weight infants, stillbirth and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

- Cessation may also increase your rate of recovery from surgery and illness.

- Cessation may put more money back in your pocket. If you smoke one pack per day, quitting smoking could save you up to \$150 a month.

Rabies clinics scheduled in five towns

Native American pet owners are invited to bring their cats and dogs for a free vaccination at one of several rabies clinics planned this summer.

The clinics are sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation Community Health Representatives (CHR) program and vaccines will be administered by local veterinarians.

Participants should bring their pets and their CDIB card to one of the designated locations during the hours listed below.

Achille

Thursday, June 4
Achille Senior Site
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Connerville

Thursday, June 11
Chickasaw Nation Senior Site
10 a.m. - Noon

Tishomingo

Thursday, June 18
Chickasaw Nation Health Clinic
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Enos

Thursday, July 2
Chickasaw Nation Community Center
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Madill

Thursday, July 2

Chickasaw Nation Senior Site

10:00 a.m. - Noon

For more information, contact the Ada Area Office at (580) 436-7256.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.



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Chickasaw Citizen

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Chickasaw Nation Health System
(580) 272-7272 ronnie.shaw@chickasaw.net
Beth Campbell, Staff Recruiter
Chickasaw Nation Health System
(580) 272-7320 beth.campbell@chickasaw.net

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Chickasaw Citizen

Chickasaw Nation wins 'Chief's Challenge' in Tulsa 5k Run



Members of the Chickasaw Nation's Metal Mayhem and Blockheads robotics teams participated in the Day-Ohn-Day 5k Run in Tulsa on May 23. Front row from left, Michael Stick, Jordan Stick, Laura Wilson, Elijah Gibson, Lashun Oakley, Chelsea Wedlow and Courtney Burris. Back row from left, Stacy Oakley, Thirkel Wedlow (obscured), Tishomingo District legislator Scott Colbert, Science, Technology and Math Program manager Sara Willie, holding Peyton West, Arles Oakley and Lynne Chatfield Director of Supportive Programs, Education Division.

More than 90 Chickasaw Nation citizens and employees participated in the 5th Annual Day-Ohn-Day 5k Run and 1 Mile Run/Walk on May 23 in Tulsa. The Chickasaw Nation won the first annual "Chief's Challenge" Award presented to the tribal leader who participates and promotes a healthy lifestyle. Proceeds of the event benefitted the 57th Annual Tulsa Pow Wow.

CONTRIBUTED BY Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.



From left, Chelsea "Sissy" Wedlow, Courtney Burris and Laura Wilson with the medals they won at the Day-Ohn-Day 5k Run in Tulsa.



From left, Tishomingo District Legislator Scott Colbert, Division of Self Governance Office of Strategic Planning program manager Alex Billings, and tribal Division of Commerce administrator Bill Lance following the Day-Ohn-Day 5k run in Tulsa. Colbert, Billings and Lance were three of the more than 90 Chickasaw employees who participated in the run. The event was May 23 and benefitted the Tulsa Powwow Association.



Chickasaw Nation Human Resources benefits and compensation generalist Jennifer Edwards, top, and Chickasaw Nation Health System laboratory clerk Tracy Chiles finish the Day-Ohn-Day 5k Run in Tulsa on May 23.



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'Chickasaw Lives, Volume Two: Profiles and Oral Histories'

BY RICHARD GREEN | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It wasn't a Eureka moment exactly, but at some point early in my job as a historian with the Chickasaw Nation, I was getting frustrated that I wasn't finding much biographical material about the people I was chronicling.

I had majored in American history and taken quite a lot of European history and Asian history and was used to studying and understanding history through the individuals who made it. For me it wasn't the famous events and dates, although certain ones have special meaning to most Americans and to me: July 4, 1776, June 6, 1944, November 22, 1963 and September 11, 2001.

It didn't occur to me what American history would be like if only a few dozen names and events had survived prior to the 20th century. But that was almost what it was like with Chickasaw history. Repeatedly, the articles and documents referred only to the "Chickasaws" or worse, some unflattering or racist characterizations (savages), as though Chickasaw people only existed in some vague way. Very few individuals were named. Perhaps to most readers there seemed to be no reason to name anyone—since in the published histories they always seemed to act in unison.

I hasten to add that this conclusion was reached too hastily, based on my readings of historians who couldn't or wouldn't spend the time and effort to achieve a deeper analysis. Later, when I started exploring primary source material such as the 18th century French and Spanish documents, divisions within the tribe were identified (but not elaborated on). Sometimes their leaders were even identified by name. Paya Mat-taha, Mingo Houma and Squirrel King were referred to as great war chiefs, but these chroniclers provided little or no

amplification or detail about their lives because their colonial superiors were interested only in the bottom line.

As a result, this impersonal nature was perpetuated in the first comprehensive account of tribal history, Arrell Gibson's *The Chickasaws*, published in 1971. In his chronological account, no Chickasaw was identified by name until near the end of the tumultuous 18th century.

In the 19th century, names appeared and even recurred in Gibson's stylish narrative but again with little or no detail. Tishomingo seemed to be more famous for being very old than anything else. Little wonder that I never felt like I knew enough about oft mentioned Chickasaws, such as that war chief or the Nation's first governor, Cyrus Harris, to generate an opinion.

When did Chickasaws begin to write their own history? In an organized way, it would have begun in the middle part of the 19th century when the tribe was in transition from a clan council form of government to a democratic type modeled after the government of the United States. Hence, a constitution and laws were written down and printed. And newspaper articles about the tribe and tribal members began turning up particularly after the American Civil War when the Chickasaw people were rebuilding their nation.

But, many Chickasaws during these years still could not read or write, and those who could resisted writing about themselves or their observations for two primary reasons. They still honored the tribe's oral tradition of story-

telling and the time-honored tradition of not speaking of, much less writing about, their deceased ancestors. Even today some will not discuss their ancestors with people outside the family.

My first working experience with the tribe involved researching Chickasaw history throughout the 20th century. As that century dawned, the United States was trying to close out both the tribal government and domain. There was a huge, almost obscene volume of paperwork to review from that period. But the great majority was generated by the federal government and the tribal attorneys.

Very little that was expressed by Chickasaws was accessible until the Great Depression and only then because WPA workers fanning out around Oklahoma tape recorded snippets of family information and tribal culture that was transcribed into the massive Indian Pioneer Collection. These sources were helpful, but there was never enough material to give me the information and insight needed to begin to understand individuals.

Then I began interviewing long-time tribal staff not just about their jobs but also their lives. When I started I didn't know if they would share such information with an outsider, but found that many were ready if not anxious to tell me their stories. These interviews were for my research project on the history

of the tribe in the 20th century. But, I later used much of the material from these interviews to begin producing profiles and oral histories for the *Journal of Chickasaw History* and later, *The Chickasaw Times*.

I enjoyed these interviews so much, that after the project was concluded I continued looking for subjects to feature who were some combination of interesting, talented, articulate, accomplished, unusual and tested in some rigorous manner. I also enjoyed the fact that the lives of Chickasaws, both extraordinary and ordinary, were finally receiving public illumination.

I am grateful to Chickasaw Press for giving me the opportunity to display a collection of them in a new book, *Chickasaw Lives, Volume Two, Profiles and Oral Histories*. The book was published by the Press just this month and will be distributed by the Press and the University of Oklahoma Press in Norman.

It contains 19 profiles and 14 oral histories. Although this may seem like a lot, considering the content of most of this essay, 33 lives represents only a good start.

For more details about the book, see the Chickasaw Press ad in this issue.

Readers may contact Richard Green at Richard.green@Chickasaw.net or 405-947-5020.

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Future chief executive John Quincy Adams recorded event

Witness to History: Meeting of Piomingo, Washington at president's home

BY RICHARD GREEN | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Note: The centerpiece for this article was discovered by Baldwyn, MS resident Mitch Caver, who was browsing the Web for references to Chief Piomingo and found this remarkable description of a meeting between the chief and President George Washington. Keyword searches are enabling researchers to quickly find what heretofore had been available only through the needle-in-the-haystack approach in historical repositories.

SETTING THE SCENE

At noon on July 11, 1794, a group of Chickasaws, including Chiefs Piomingo and George Colbert, arrived at the President's House in Philadelphia for a welcoming ceremony hosted by President George Washington. (Philadelphia was the United States capital while Washington, D.C. was under construction.)

The President's House was on Market Street one block north of Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776 and the U.S. Constitution was drafted and signed in 1787. The house was demolished in the 1830s, about the time that the Chickasaws were being removed to Indian Territory.

My source of information on the description of the President's House in 1794 is Edward Lawler, Jr., the Philadelphia historian who has researched and written extensively about its history for the Independence Hall Association (IHA).

I corresponded with him and then in May met him on the site of the President's House for an interview and "guided tour." The IHA and city of Philadelphia have collaborated to preserve the site and will construct a full-sized floor plan of the house with its foundations displayed for public viewing in glass encased subterranean chambers.

Inside the three-story residence, Lawler said, Washington typically greeted important guests in the State Dining Room which he recently had improved for that purpose with the addition of a large semi-circular bow window. Washington would greet visitors standing with his back to the bow window, thus backlighting him, at six feet two, in rather a commanding manner.

Following the presidential greeting, ceremonial smoking likely was held in an even more elegantly appointed and impressive space, the Hall. Because it was framed on one end by a magnificent two-tiered mahogany staircase, the room's ceiling towered an estimated 38 feet above the floor. With the President were almost certainly Secretary of War Henry Knox (who was responsible for Indian affairs), and 28-year-old John Quincy Adams, the son of Vice President John Adams.

The up-and-coming young diplomat and future U.S. president had been invited by President Washington to attend the reception and meeting with the Chickasaws. It is lucky for us that young Adams attended because he wrote an unusually descriptive account (for the 18th century) of the meeting. Some 215 years later, I put his July 11th diary entry in the context of the time.

negotiations in Europe. — By the invitation of the President I attended at the reception he gave to Piomingo and a number of other Chickasaw Indians. Five chiefs, seven warriors, four boys and an interpreter, constituted the company. — As soon as the whole were seated the ceremony of smoking began. a large East Indian pipe was placed in the middle of the Hall. the tube which appeared to be of leather was twelve or fifteen feet in length. The President began, and after two or three whiffs passed the tube to Piomingo, he to the

This excerpt describing the Piomingo-Washington meeting is from the diary of John Quincy Adams.

Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Background

In the 1780s, Chickasaws were divided over whether to ally with the Spanish colonialists or the fledgling United States. Chief Piomingo signed a treaty of alliance with the United States at Hopewell, S.C., in 1786 while another strong and well-respected chief, known variously as Ugulayacabe or "Wolf's Friend," signed a treaty with Spain at Mobile in 1784.

For a time, both chiefs also did business with their apparent adversaries, in what was probably a strategy of playing one nation against the other to enhance trade deals to benefit the tribe. But by the late 1780s, Piomingo was resolutely pro-American and anti-Spanish. Part of his resolve stemmed from the fact that Spain's staunchest ally and America's fiercest foe was the principal chief of the Creeks, the mixed blood Alexander McGillivray.

In 1787, McGillivray demanded that the Chickasaws expel American agents. When that didn't happen, the chief sent raiding parties to harass or kill Chickasaws and their American guests. One such raiding party in 1789 killed Piomingo's brother and nephew, who was carrying a message from Piomingo to the recently inaugurated President George Washington.

Unable to retaliate because of a shortage of ammunition, Piomingo asked the Spanish for arms. When Spain refused, Piomingo sought to meet with Washington in New York City. Bad weather or perhaps an unfavorable sign from the spirit world prevented the trip there, so Piomingo turned to the state of Virginia, which complied with the request that permitted the Chickasaws to strike back against the Creeks.

Meanwhile, President Washington had been unresponsive to Chickasaw requests for more aid until Piomingo and fifty warriors volunteered in 1791 to help the young republic deal with several tribes of northern Indians who wanted to keep the U.S. off their lands.

While it may seem ironic that Chickasaws would be aiding the United States to invade sovereign tribal land, Piomingo felt he had no choice. To defend themselves from Creek attacks, Chickasaws needed shipments of arms from the Americans, and the only way to secure them, Piomingo believed, was to demonstrate loyalty to the Americans. Furthermore, some of the northern tribes had been enemies of the Chickasaws through much of the 18th century.

Loyalty mattered to Washington, who showered gifts on Piomingo and the warriors who accompanied him. In 1792, the Americans invited the Southern tribes to a council and peace treaty signing in Nashville. Tennessee territorial governor William Blount told the assemblage of tribes that Spain would demand land cessions but that the U.S. would not. "The United States have lands enough," Blount said, in one of the earliest and most erroneous predictions in American history.

Moreover, the Chickasaws were told that their blood and the blood of the Americans "was the same," meaning one would always defend against attacks made on

the other. And in fact, the Chickasaws had struck against the Creeks when they had attacked American settlers in the Cumberland Valley.

That same year, Spain invited the Southern tribes to New Orleans to receive gifts and sign a peace treaty. One of the attendees was the Chickasaw king, Taski Etoke, who began receiving a Spanish retainer. McGillivray again signed with Spain and Creek raids on the Chickasaw increased. This time, when Piomingo asked for more American aid, it was promptly shipped to Chickasaw Bluffs (today's Memphis, TN).

As a result, the pro-American Chickasaws launched successful counterattacks on the Creeks, who were further disadvantaged when the chronically ill McGillivray suddenly died in February 1793. The pro-Spanish Chickasaws and other tribes, meanwhile, signed the Treaty of Nogales with Spain late that year. It was an offensive/defensive alliance and provided for annual gifts and permanent Spanish Indian agents.

Through Governor Blount in April 1793, Piomingo asked the President for arms, ammunition, and corn to offset a series of crop failures due to drought. Blount said yes, but no delivery date was included. So Piomingo decided to make his request in person during the late summer of 1793. His party set off, probably from his home in Chukafalaya (Long Town), intending to remind Washington of the promises made to the tribe at Nashville in 1792 by Secretary Knox. However, the Chickasaws met Governor Blount, who induced them to return home as deadly fevers were sweeping through Philadelphia.

In 1794, Piomingo felt even more urgency to see the President and made another request. Ugulayacabe had given the Spanish permission to build a fort on the Mississippi River at Chickasaw Bluffs, which had long been an important military position in Chickasaw country. Then, Ugulayacabe built a settlement nearby from which they could protect the Spanish from Piomingo's faction should those warriors attack.

Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Governor Blount was authorized to notify Piomingo that Washington would see him. Piomingo, George Colbert, and other unnamed chiefs and warriors set

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

off and arrived in Nashville in June. In July, the Piomingo contingent arrived in Philadelphia—the largest American city with a population of about 35,000.

PIOMINGO AND GEORGE WASHINGTON MEET

Published historical accounts of the meeting are perfunctory, recording the gist of President Washington's brief speech. But, apparently unknown to those historians, John Quincy Adams had taken quill in hand and recorded observations in his di-



Philadelphia historian Edward Lawler stands where he thinks President Washington would have greeted Piomingo. Independence Hall is one block to the north.

ary.

He wrote that the Chickasaw party included five chiefs, seven warriors, four boys, and an interpreter. Judging from the size of previous traveling parties to Philadelphia or New York, there were probably others who, for reasons of space, were not present in the room. Adams identified only Piomingo, about age 47, by name, but there is good reason to believe that long-time tribal interpreter and confidant Malcolm McGee was present, as was 30-year-old Chief George Colbert, also known as Tootemastubee. It is likely that mixed blood chief William Glover and Mucklesa Mingo were also present, as both had attended the Nashville Conference of 1792.

This blend of full bloods and mixed bloods reflected the transition of tribal leadership. In less than five years, the transition would be accelerated with the death of Piomingo. At a time of increasing contact with Americans, the Colbert brothers, George, William, and James, the sons of a white man (James Colbert) would become the leading chiefs of the tribe.

The Chickasaw boys Adams mentioned probably were the sons of chiefs selected by their families to be taught English by Americans. Washington made the offer during the meeting, but it isn't known if these boys remained behind to begin their education.

Despite the summer heat, the chiefs must have felt the need to demonstrate their loyalty graphically. Adams wrote that some were dressed in "coarse jackets and trowsers, and some in the uniform of the United States." Some of the party had shirts, others had none. No one, he noted, was "painted or scarified" and four or five had "rings in their noses."

He also noticed that "one or two had large plates [gorgets], apparently of silver, hanging upon the breast ..." Piomingo and George Colbert had received peace medals in 1792 from Washington through secretary Knox, so these might have been them. But if these were peace medals, Adams probably would have identified them as such.

The ceremonial smoking of a peace pipe featured a decidedly odd twist. Instead of the usual clay or stone hand-held variety used by Chickasaws and

most Indians, this one, according to Adams, was of "East Indian" origin, made of leather and was a gargantuan 12 to 15 feet in length. Washington took a couple of puffs, then passed the "tube" to Piomingo and so on around the circle.

Adams noted that the Chickasaws "looked as if they were submitting to a process in compliance with our custom. Some of them ... smiled with expressions that reflected "novelty" and even "frivolity," as if the "ceremony struck them ... as ridiculous."

President Washington then read his speech, which probably had been written by secretary Knox. Adams noted that Washington stopped at the end of each sentence for the translation. And Adams wrote that following each translation, the translator would repeat the same word twice, which he wrote sounded like "Tshkyer!" The five chiefs would then utter a sound that "resembled a horse's neighing" and that it would be faint or strong according to the "degree of satisfaction."

I contacted John Dyson for help making sense out of these utterances. He works for the tribe in the language revitalization program, and after some research and thought, replied that "Tshkyer" was *Aaschishki*, meaning, "truly this is what is being said." As for the neighing sound, Dyson interpreted that to be "L i." In colloquial English, he said this means, "Uh-huh."

The President's speech is part of his official papers that are housed at the Library of Congress. Washington told the Chickasaws that their actions in support of the American Army against the hostile tribes northwest of the Ohio [in 1791] are the "strongest evidence of your friendship." If the Chickasaws "will join their arms with ours" the United States will "defray all the expenses upon a liberal scale." He said to communicate tribal needs "to the Secretary of War who will furnish you with Goods for your nation, your families and yourselves."

As added inducements, Washington told them if they wanted to continue on to see New York City, he would make the arrangements for their accommodations. And as noted, Washington said the United States would also provide for the education of willing Chickasaw boys. Meanwhile, he told them "to consider yourselves as at home."

This suggests that they might have been accommodated at the President's House at least for the night. But Ed Lawler believes it is unlikely: "I've never found references to guests other than family and close friends staying overnight at the President's House during Washington's administration. The upstairs' rooms were mainly occupied by family and staff, he said. On the other hand, the main house was approximately 9,000 square feet in size, and contained several rooms on the second and third floors that had been used as bedrooms, according to Lawler.

Adams continued by reporting that after Washington concluded his speech, Piomingo announced that he wasn't feeling up to speaking, but promised to do so in the next few days. Those meetings, Lawler said, would typically have been conducted at the offices of the war department in a recently constructed building aptly called the New Hall, which still stands today.

Finally, as wine, punch, and cake were served probably in the Family Dining Room, Adams heard Washington tell a group of the Chickasaws that they had always been "sincere and faithful friends" and that the U.S. valued them "most highly." Washington waited for a response, but according to Adams, they "made no answer to the President's compliment."

POSTSCRIPT

Meetings were held periodically over the next 10 days, but no details are known. A final meeting was held between the President and Chickasaw chiefs at 11 a.m. on July 21. Henry Knox submitted a farewell speech for Washington's review, but no copy of it is known to exist. Nevertheless, we do know that at that meeting President Washington commissioned one of the chiefs as a captain in the militia and gave the delegation many gifts.

The information comes via Ugulayacabe, who wasn't there but discussed the trip with some of the participants when they returned home. The gifts included either \$600 or \$1,000 (that's \$12,000 to \$20,000 in today's money) to Piomingo (the sum was in dispute), clothing and boots for everyone, and presents for their families and for persons named by Piomingo but who were not present. Each Chickasaw received \$30 to use for purchases in Philadelphia stores.

At the request of the Chickasaw chiefs, Washington gave Piomingo a written document, setting forth the boundaries of the Chickasaw territory. These coincided exactly with those expressed by Piomingo at the conference in Nashville in 1792. The document stated that the Chickasaw territory was under the protection of the United States and included a warning to its citizens.

They were forbidden to trespass on, injure, or molest Chickasaw persons, lands, hunting grounds, or other rights or property. They were also forbidden to purchase or treat (trade) with the Chickasaws for the title or occupation of any lands held or claimed by them. Washington also said he would "call upon all appropriate citizens to aid and assist in the prosecution and punishment, according to law, of all persons who shall be found offending in the premises."

Piomingo probably couldn't have worded it any better. But in five years, Piomingo and George Washington were both dead and five years after that, the Chickasaws were forced to make their first substantial land cession to the United States. It was a slice of land, which became western Tennessee, northwest Alabama, and western Kentucky.

Chief George Colbert, who had been with Piomingo and George Washington at the meetings in 1794, signed the land cession treaty as the Chickasaw's principal chief. John Quincy Adams was a member of the U.S. Senate, which ratified the treaty in 1807.

Note: Groundbreaking was scheduled to be held this summer to build an outdoor full-scale exhibit of the President's House adjacent to the Liberty Bell Center. For an artist's rendering of the structure and more information, go to <http://www.phila.gov/presidentshouse/>.

Richard Green may be contacted at richard.green@chickasaw.net or 405.947.5020.

Sources:

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Edward Lawler, Jr., interview, May 11, 2009.

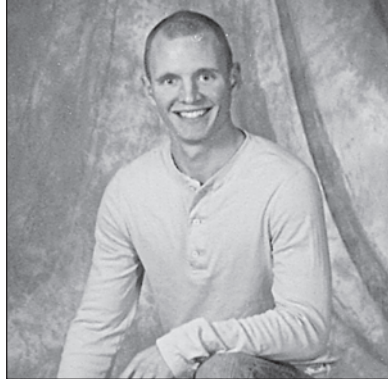
7. David Hoth, associate editor, *The Papers of George Washington*, University of Virginia.

Butts, Stanley receive Edward Kruger, Patrick Flickinger Scholarships

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce the spring 2009 recipient of the Edward L. Kruger Memorial Itish Aaisha' Scholarship as **Mr. Shiloh Butts**, and the recipient of The Chickasaw Nation Lighthouse Scholarship – In Memory of Special Agent Patrick Flickinger is **Mr. Logan Stanley**.



Shiloh Butts



Logan Stanley

Shiloh attends the Southwestern State

College of Pharmacy and is a member

of Kappa Psi, a professional pharmaceutical fraternity, which helps him to be involved with the community and to be able to do volunteer work. He helps annually with the St. Jude's charity golf tournament and also volunteers at the Oklahoma Heritage Pharmacy Museum and attends the Oklahoma Pharmacists Association Legislative Day. Upon graduation Shiloh would like to work for the

Indian Health Service and one day own his own pharmacy.

Logan is attending the University of Central Oklahoma and majoring in criminal justice. His future plans include completing his bachelor's degree and pursuing a career in law enforcement. He would like to work his way into a supervisory or leadership position with the goal of eventually becoming the public relations person for the agency where he is employed.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE FOUNDATION

Velma-Alma student named April 2009 'Student of the Month'

Mr. Frank Johnson was selected as the April 2009 Chickasaw Foundation Student of the Month. He is a junior at Velma-Alma High School.



Frank is very active in high school sports but still manages to maintain a 3.7 grade point average. He is involved in the National Honor Society, Principal's Honor Roll, Honor Band, Beta Club and the Academic Team. He received the Oklahoma Heritage Scholarship as well as earning a spot on the Stephens County Tournament basketball team.

Frank is a volunteer for many activities including the Chickasaw Nation Children's Fair, Comet Readers (reading to elementary students) and the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound program.

His future plans include attending college as an athlete while training to be a teacher.



Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound Students enjoyed a trip to the Ft. Worth Zoo during spring break.

Upward Bound students interact with young Chickasaws at Children's Fair; learn about Lighthouse K9 units

Approximately 80 Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound (CFUB) students attended the Chickasaw Nation Children's Fair on April 25, 2009. The students manned a fishing booth and painted the faces of the young children attending the event. Many of the youth assisted other groups with their booths as well.

The students really enjoy working at the Children's Fair as they talk about the fun they had and the children they met. It is really interesting to watch how caring and patient the students are with the small children.

The past few weeks have seen the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound staff preparing for the summer session that began June 1, 2009. Orientations were held May 9 and May 16 at Davis and Tishomingo, respectively.

During the orientations, the Chickasaw

Nation Lighthouse Police and the department's K-9 units performed exhibitions showing how the dogs are trained and provided a few examples of the dogs at work. The officers informed the groups that not all police dogs are trained to be drug dogs. Many of the dogs are trained to locate other substances such as explosives.

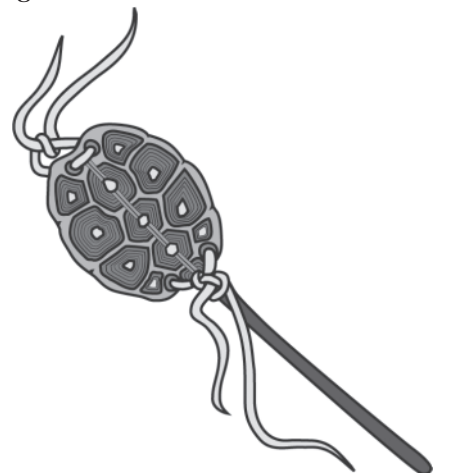
Thank you to the Chickasaw Nation Lighthouse Police.

The CFUB summer session is designed to give our participants a "college-going experience." Sometimes it is difficult for parents when their children leave home for the first time.

The staff at CFUB use their time in orientation to explain the safety features in place which provides comfort for many parents. The participants get in a routine of attending class for seven hours per day and participating in

group activities in the evenings.

At the end of the five week session, each qualifying student has the opportunity to experience an out-of-state trip that enhances their classroom experience and provides real world knowledge.



Annual Scholarship Reception scheduled for July 28 in Ada

The Chickasaw Foundation will host its 9th annual scholarship reception on July 28 at the McSwain Theater, 130 West Main in Ada, Oklahoma beginning at 6 p.m.

Scholarship awards will be presented to recipients along with a Power Point presentation and refreshments. You may RSVP by contacting the Chickasaw Foundation at chickasawfoundation@chickasaw.net or calling (580) 421-9030.

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS



From left, Johnny Cox, traditional ribbon shirt; Karyn Cox, beaded appliqué necklace made by Earl Van Winkle of Madill, Okla.; Patsy Bailey, beaded collar; Sue Willis, shell dress; and Ruth McAdoo in buckskin dress. The children are Byron, Dakota, Abigail, Dalton and Caitlynn. They are children of Shannon and Tiffany Beshirs, grandchildren of Bonnie and Bill Beshirs and Johnny and Karyn Cox, and great grandchildren of Virginia NeeSmith and Cebert and Hyahwahnah Cox.

Chickasaws of Texoma Community Council

Chickasaws of Texoma is the official name of the newly-formed community council in southern Oklahoma. We meet the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Chickasaw Community Center, 1400 Enos Road, Kingston. A meal is provided followed by the program.

April's meeting highlight was a fashion show with Ruth McAdoo and Sue Willis in traditional Chickasaw dresses they created themselves. The dresses featured

beadwork done in the beading class conducted Thursday evenings at the Community Center. Karyn and Johnny Cox and five of their grandchildren modeled Indian attire and Patsy Bailey modeled a beadwork collar that she designed.

We have exciting programs at each meeting and hope all Chickasaw citizens in the Texoma area will come join us for food and fun. We hope to see everyone at the next Chickasaws of Texoma meeting on Thursday, June 25.



Josh Hinson, Stanley Smith and his wife Mary gave the Chickasaw Community Councils of Central and South Texas a Language Training class to include the use of each council's Chickasaw Language Phraselators.

Central and South Texas Community Council

The language team of Josh Hinson, Stanley Smith and his wife Mary traveled to Austin, Texas to provide Phraselator and Chickasaw language training to representatives of the Chickasaw Community Councils of Central and South.

The military origins of the Phraselator, its use for language training was discussed along with the device's many capabilities were discussed in length with the trainers. It is anticipated that the Phraselators will enable both councils to begin the task of teaching the members of their respective councils how to gain a knowledge of key Chickasaw phrases that can be used in ev-

eryday conversations.

Based upon the excitement aroused in the trainers, both councils are looking forward to using the Phraselators in training sessions within each of their councils. The councils have expressed their thankfulness the Chickasaw Nation providing this outstanding tool to them and for the training obtained during this introductory language class.

At the Council's regular monthly meetings the next day, the Phraselator was demonstrated to the council members present and discussions of how to best use this unique instrument was initiated.

Chilocco reunion set for June 11-14 in Catoosa

CATOOSA, Okla. – Cherokee Casino and Resort will be the site of the annual reunion of the Chilocco National Alumni Association, June 11-14, 2009. The reunion promises a variety of weekend events to entertain while reminiscing with former classmates and friends of Chilocco Indian School.

Registration opens Thursday, June 11 at 2 p.m. A reception hosted by the Northeast Chapter will be at 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 12 events include a golf tournament and an evening powwow and fashion show.

Saturday, June 13, events include a veterans' breakfast, a business meeting with election of officers, an evening banquet during which nominees will be inducted into the Hall of Fame and a dance following the banquet. The Class of 1959 will be the honored class this year during the banquet.

The weekend events conclude with a Sunday morning worship service conducted by Rev. Reuben Kelly, class of 1959.

Chilocco Indian School, located in North Central Oklahoma, was established in 1884 and has educated Native American students throughout the United States including Alaska.

In 1980 Chilocco closed its doors for the last time. In an effort to keep the memory alive, a group of former students organized the Chilocco National Alumni Association in the late 1980s. The group has an annual reunion usually alternating between Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Currently there are six chapters including one in Albuquerque.

The association has a nationwide membership of approximately 300 and are currently recruiting classes in the 60s and 70s.

Chickasaw Foundation 2nd Annual T-Ball Tournament

The Chickasaw Foundation would like to graciously thank the following for their contributions and sponsorships for our 2nd Annual T-Ball Tournament. It is the help of our generous spon-

sors, donors and volunteers that made our tournament a success.

Ada Tire Center
Burger King
Carl's Jr.
Brian & Tracie Carter
Delicias Mexican Restaurant
Dominoes
Golden Corral
Heavenly Buns
JB Lumber
Kim's Tanning
Lazer Zone
Chaz Lumley, Sooner Tool Co.
McDonalds
Meagan Melton
Mississippi Madness
Ellis Naifeh
Nichols Dollar Saver
Sonic
Starbucks
John Stevenson

Taco Bell
Taco Mayo
The Runner
Trison Enterprises
TS&H
Darrell & Johnna R. Walker
Wal-Mart
Vision Bank (Bronze Sponsorship)
Campbell's Furniture, Inc (Bronze Sponsorship)
First United Bank & Trust (Bronze Sponsorship)
Dr. Chris Gurley
Ada Family Eye Care
Ted Holt Flooring Center (Bronze Sponsorship)
Oklahoma Heritage Bank (Bronze Sponsorship)
Ray's Travel Service (Bronze Sponsorship)
Chickasaw Nation Division of Commerce
Chickasaw Nation Head Start
Chickasaw Nation Landscaping Department
Chickasaw Nation Maintenance Department

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS



Planning Team Volunteer front row from left, Rena Smith, Michelle Keller, Kim Factor. Back row from left, Janis Bell, Sheila Hubbard.

Oregon and Washington Chickasaw Community Council now forming in Northwest

Due to high interest, and with the support of the Chickasaw Nation, Oregon and Washington are now forming the Pacific Northwest's first Chickasaw Community Council.

In the summer of 2007, the Chickasaw Nation invited Oregon and Washington Chickasaw citizens to a gathering in Portland to learn more about our culture and available services. In April, 2009, the tribe invited citizens, within a 60-mile radius, to a community meeting where attendees voiced an overwhelming response to form as an informal community council.

The council meetings will be quarterly, with the first to be Saturday, July 25, at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion in Portland. From 1-4pm Northwest Chickasaw citizens will meet to define their new council as well as participate in activities and future planning.

Quarterly meetings are expected to showcase the Chickasaw culture and all that's available to citizens. The tribe will provide various speakers such as the Tribal Historian, Genealogist, language specialist as well as others regarding services offered by the tribe. However, the planning team needs your input and help to spread the word!

"Due to privacy laws, we are requesting contact information for Oregon & Washington Chickasaw citizens," states Communications Liaison, Janis Bell. In addition, those interested in volunteering, especially anyone with professional web design experience is urged to contact Janis directly at pnwcc@centurytel.com or call (360) 686-0540.

Current Planning Team Mem-

bers are Janis Bell, Kim Factor, Sheila Hubbard, Michelle Keller, and Rena Smith - all of whom are volunteering their time and effort into preliminary planning and coordination on the council's behalf.

As these volunteers state, "This is your council - a place to come together and celebrate our heritage - We look forward to seeing you July 25. Save the date!

Arizona Community Council

Looking to connect with other Chickasaws in your area? Now it's easier than ever just by logging on to Facebook.com and joining the newly added group "Chickasaws in Arizona."

The goal of this group is to have fun, learn more Chickasaw language, participate in arts and crafts and plan events to strengthen connections between the Arizona community of Chickasaw and The Chickasaw Nation.

For more information, email Sherrie Courtney at singingwind7@yahoo.com

Colorado Community Council

The May meeting for the Colorado Chickasaw Council was May 9. All members who were unable to join us missed a good time.

Michelle Cook from the Cultural Center was our speaker. She gave a very interesting talk about the exciting things going on in and around Ada. She had with her acid free cards that we could use to write items

for the time capsule, which will be opened after 50 years. They want family history, photographs, or drawings, and quilt squares which can be all joined after the opening. Anything on paper going into the capsule must be on acid free paper. She left some cards and pens with us for people to use and submit.

Also we saw many interesting pictures of the construction and how many of the items will be displayed.

We had a pot luck with many good things to eat, and there was plenty of time for visiting.

Bette London brought lovely pots of Pansy's for decorations celebrating Spring. Then she let everyone take one home with them.

James had brought some very nice mugs that he ordered for us from the Indian Country magazine.

Look forward to seeing everyone in August.

Johnston County Community Council

The Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council conducted its monthly meeting May 18, 2009 at the community building in Tishomingo, Okla.

The council enjoyed speaker Meredith Johnston from the Chickasaw Studies department giving information on the time capsule which will be located at the Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla.

Members enjoyed snacks, visiting with one another, and door prize drawing. Thanks to all members for attending and especially Virginia Mills for her uplifting invocation in opening our meetings. See you next month.

New Mexico Community Council to meet June 20

Chickasaws of New Mexico - bring your family and join us for our first pot luck dinner on June 20, 11:30 a.m. at the Sandia Valley Nazarene Church located at 2315 Markham Road SW. Look for both the church sign and a Chickasaw sign at the corner of Isleta Blvd. and Markham Road SW.

The council will provide meat, traditional pashofa and drinks. You may bring your family's favorite dish. This

is a day focused on family and fun and we'll have lots of door prizes, a raffle, games for the children and fun for all.

Janet Reubin, Program Developer, from the Nation's Division of History and Culture will be present to tell us about the Chickasaw Cultural Center Time Capsule Project. The time capsule will be buried at the new Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla., and opened in 50 years.

We have the opportunity to submit stories, quilt squares, recipes, 4" x 6" photos, etc. Our submissions will be gathered in one packet and placed in the capsule with packets from other Chickasaw Community Councils. So be thinking about what you want to submit and if you would like to place photos please bring those to the meeting. For additional information call Loretta Yepa (575) 834-2012 or email Vadare Cornelison at va-dareq5@aol.com.

North Texas Community Council

Our May meeting was a huge success with a pot luck dinner and speaker Fannae' Shields who spoke on Hearing Impairment.

Fannae' brought information about devices for the hearing impaired, organizations to contact for help, and personal experiences. She also demonstrated CART (Communication Access Real-time Translation) where a recorder transcribes what is said and the words are instantly flashed on a screen for reading. It was a presentation warmly received by the council and we thank Fannae' for bringing it to us. Because of job commitments and other obligations, Stan Farmer said he would resign as chairperson. John Atkins was elected to fill Stan's remaining term. John has done an outstanding job in the past and was instrumental in forming our council. We thank Stan for his efforts and welcome John back to lead us. We invite all North Texas Chickasaws to join us at our next meeting on June 20 at 2 p.m. at Bedford Boys Ranch in Bedford, Texas. We always have good food, fellowship and information about what is avail-

able to the At-Large Citizens living in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

For more information contact John Atkins, chairperson, at (972) 271-0692 or injunjon2@verizon.net.

Wichita Community Council

The Wichita Council gathered at the Friends of the Keeper powwow in fellowship in place of the regular monthly meeting. Several members sat under the shade erected for the event and others choose to sit with their friends and family.

The whole weekend was filled with plenty of beautiful weather, dances, ceremonies, food and vendors for everyone's enjoyment. At the end of the events on Saturday, there was the Riverfest fireworks.

On May 27 at the Mid America All Indian Center will be the second in a four-part series entitled "Share the Culture" featuring the Chickasaws. We will have a program on dance and song. We will be viewing part of the Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe's visit from a year ago.

The third program will be June 3 featuring some of the language and the fourth session, scheduled for June 17, will be about the Boarding School experience.

Our meeting for June will be June 21 at 3 pm in the Mid America All Indian Center. Please join us.

Chepota Himmita participates in Child Abuse Prevention Day at the Capitol

Members from the Chickasaw Nation Family Advocacy Chepota Himmita program met with state law makers during Child Abuse Prevention Day to support legislation giving greater protection to victims of child abuse.

Sponsored annually by the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention and Smart-Start agencies, the event was held at the Oklahoma State Capitol, April 14, as part of a coordinated effort with the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to pass the new laws.

"It is encouraging to have the opportunity each year to gather at the state capitol and meet with state law makers and representatives from other agencies who are all working toward the goal of preventing child abuse and neglect,"

said Ginger Dunn, Supervisor for the Chepota Himmita Program.

In addition to meeting Governor Brad Henry, Senator Susan Paddock and Representative Todd Thomsen, there was also the opportunity for the Chepota Himmita representatives to network with other advocates from across the state.

Chepota Himmita provided a resource booth informing attendees and capitol visitors of the efforts being made by the Chickasaw Nation department of Family Advocacy to protect children through available programs and services.

The Chickasaw Nation Indian Child Welfare and Family Advocacy Foster Care and Adoption programs also attended to bolster support, representing the many children in foster care

services throughout the state.

"It is important that we demonstrate to our state lawmakers our dedication to this effort and that we require their support through legislation and funding in order to be successful in preventing child abuse and neglect," said Dunn.

In 2008, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services reports that there were over 11,700 confirmed cases of child abuse and neglect in the state of Oklahoma. National statistics show that a child abuse report is made every 10 second in the USA.

Chepota Himmita is a voluntary program, at no cost, that seeks to provide community based resources and support for Native American families.

The program provides opportuni-

ties to learn about child health/development, use of community resources, parenting skills, support groups, home visitation by support workers, nutrition, family budgeting and more.

Enrollment in the Chepota Himmita program is for women 28 weeks pregnant and up to 12 months after birth, who are members of Native American Families living in Pontotoc County. Once enrolled, children can participate till age six.

For more information and for details on enrolment and future Chepota Himmita events you can call 580-272-5550 or visit the Chickasaw Nation Youth and Family Services at 231 Seabrook Road in Ada.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Marriage and Family Initiative seeks healthy families, cultural connection

ADA, Okla. - Dr. Tom Millholland joined experts from the Chickasaw Nation to find culturally sound methods to strengthen Chickasaw families during the first annual Marriage and Family Initiative.

The forum, hosted by the Office of Strong Family Development May 1, in Ada, attempted to understand trends that might be present within Chickasaw families including extended kinship, urbanization, healthy marriages, and quality of life.

"This forum encouraged us to think about these relationships from both a cultural and systemic standpoint," Dr. Waymon Hinson, director of the Office of Strong Family Development said. "As

we move forward, we are hopeful of finding new ways of fulfilling the goals of the Governor's Family Initiative."

The Governor's Family Initiative was enacted in 2004 to educate, train and counsel Chickasaw families to increase the overall health of the Chickasaw Nation by increasing the health of the families.

Featured guest Dr. Millholland, professor of Marriage and Family Therapy and Systems Theory expert at Abilene Christian University, was brought in to lead the forum.

"As Chickasaw people spread further apart due to urbanization, the extended family loses its influence and tribal members are reared apart from their

cultural background," Dr. Millholland said. "This makes the transmission of cultural mores and values difficult."

The Chickasaw Learning Community at the University of Oklahoma is a new tool being used to address this issue by informing young Chickasaw adults of their historic past. The hope is that these young people will become thriving members of the Chickasaw community.

Chickasaw citizens and Representatives from Drug Court Support Services, Behavioral Health, Youth and Family Services, and cultural experts from the Division of History and Culture took part in the initiative adding various aspects of expertise to the discussions.

"It was beneficial having Dr. Millholland's expertise laid alongside our people who understand and live Chickasaw culture, history, and tradition," said Dr. Hinson.

The Office of Strong Family Development provides family education and counseling support to Chickasaw families and groups addressing fatherhood, single parent support, prevention relationship enhancement training, and many additional services.

For more information on the Marriage and Family Initiative, future events, or services contact the Office of Strong family Development 580-436-1222.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jeremy Oliver, tribal media relations.

Dedicating Child Development Center



From left, Chickasaw elders Pauline Brown, Pauline Walker, Rose Jefferson and Geneva Holman prepare to sing Choctaw hymns prior to the dedication of the new Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center.

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APRIL 2009 RESOLUTIONS

General Resolution Number 26-040
Approval of Request to Use Likeness of the Great Seal of the Chickasaw Nation
(Trail of Tears Association)

Explanation: This resolution approves the request of the Arkansas Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association to use the likeness of the Great Seal of the Chickasaw Nation on educational panels placed at historical sites in the State of Arkansas. The panels will be for the purpose of educating the public about Chickasaw history. The Arkansas Chapter has offered to allow the Chickasaw Nation to review the panels before they go to final printing. The request letter and samples of completed panels are attached hereto.

Emergency Legislation: This resolution was received after the deadline and is needed by the Association as soon as possible.

Presented By: Tribal Historical and Cultural Preservation Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 26-041
Gubernatorial Reappointment to the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society
Ms. Debbie Jackson

Explanation: This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's reappointment of Ms. Debbie Jackson to the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society. Ms. Jackson will fill an unexpired term of

office ending on October 1, 2011.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee, Dean McManus, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 26-042
Gubernatorial Reappointment to the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society
Ms. Mary Hartley

Explanation: This resolution approves Governor Bill Anoatubby's reappointment of Ms. Mary Hartley to the Board of Directors of the Chickasaw Historical Society. Ms. Hartley will fill an unexpired term of office ending on October 1, 2011.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee, Dean McManus, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 26-043
Quit Claim Deed for the Purpose of Clearing Title Defect

Explanation: At this time the Chickasaw Nation is preparing to place this tract of land into trust status with the United States. The United States will not accept this tract into trust with the existing fence encroachment within. In order to maintain a friendly

and good neighbor relationship, it is recommended that a 0.03 acre strip of this parcel be conveyed to the adjoining property owner in order to negate any dispute of adverse possession. This resolution authorizes and approves of the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation to execute a Quit Claim Deed which sets out the legal description of the 0.03 acres associated with the property.

Presented by: Land Development Committee, Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Permanent Resolution Number 26-008
Amendments to Title 16, Chapter 3 Section 16-302 of the Chickasaw Nation Code
(Format for Resolutions)

Explanation: This resolution amends a section in Title 16 so that an explanation page shall be attached to all resolutions, but not be a part of the officially adopted language. This resolution also provides that a sample explanation page be included as an appendix to Title 16 of the Chickasaw Nation Code. The sample explanation page is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Presented By: Legislative Committee

Yes votes: Connie Barker, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

No votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee May 4, 2009 Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Linda Briggs Absent: Wanda Blackwood Scott	May 6, 2009 Present: Connie Barker, Katie Case, Mary Jo Green, David Woerz, Linda Briggs Absent: Dean McManus, Wanda Blackwood Scott
Finance Committee May 11, 2009 Present: Holly Easterling, Judy Goforth Parker, Steve Woods, David Woerz, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Linda Briggs Absent: Dean McManus	Land Development Committee May 4, 2009 Present: Judy Goforth Parker, Beth Alexander, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs
Health Committee May 4, 2009 Present: Mary Jo Green, Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Scott Colbert, Linda Briggs Absent: Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker	Legislative Committee May 4, 2009 Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Connie Barker, Judy Goforth Parker, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Scott Colbert Absent: Tim Colbert, Dean McManus, Wanda Blackwood Scott
Human Resources Committee	

2007-2008 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

<u>Pontotoc District</u> Seat #	<u>Pickens District</u> Seat #	<u>Tishomingo District</u> Seat #
1. Holly Easterling 105 Thompson Drive Ada, OK 74820 (580) 399-4002 holly.easterling@chickasaw.net	1. David Woerz P.O. Box 669 Ardmore, OK 73402 (580) 504-0160	1. D. Scott Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 622-3960
2. Judy Parker P.O. Box 2628 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 332-3840	2. Connie Barker 509 SW 7th Ave. Marietta, OK (580) 276-5420	2. Tim Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 993-2818
3. Katie Case 14368 County Road 3597 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 421-9390	3. Linda Briggs 400 NW 4th Marietta, OK 73448 (580) 276-3493	3. Steven Woods Route 1, Box 430A Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 622-3523
4. Dean McManus 5980 CR 3430 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 759-3407	4. Wanda Blackwood Scott Route 1, Box 42 Elmore City, OK 73433 (580) 788-4730 scottdes@telepath.com	<u>Panola District</u> Seat #
5. Mary Jo Green 2000 E. 14th Place Ada, OK 74820 (580) 332-2394		1. Beth Alexander Box 246 Achille, OK 74720 (580) 283-3409 bethalexander22@hotmail.com

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

**CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
David Stout Building
Ada, Oklahoma
April 17, 2009**

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Secretary Judy Goforth Parker served as Chairperson Pro Tempore in the absence of Chairperson Linda Briggs. Ms. Holly Easterling served as Secretary Pro Tempore. Chairperson Pro Tempore Goforth Parker called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

Members absent: Linda Briggs, David Woerz

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms, Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel, Marilyn Coltz, Administrative Assistant

Guests present: Wilma Pauline Stout Watson, Michael T. Watson, Michael L. Wingo, Traile G. Glory, Deanna Kendall, Tony Choate, Kenneth Frazier

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Green.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES -March 20, 2009

A correction was noted to the minutes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Green to approve the March 20, 2009 minutes as corrected.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve the minutes of March 20, 2009, as amended, carried unanimously.

Chairperson Pro Tempore Goforth Parker asked for the minutes of February 20, 2009 be reconsidered. Mrs. Alexander noted an error on page four of the minutes and asked that it be corrected.

A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Green to amend the February 20, 2009 minutes as noted.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to amend an error on page four of the February 20, 2009 session minutes carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Steve Woods

No report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Holly Easterling

General Resolution Number 26-037, Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Ardmore Clinic Renovation

This resolution amends General Resolution 26-024 for the Ardmore Health Clinic to include an increase in the square footage of the clinic. This amendment does not change the cost of the project. The Ardmore Health Clinic was built in 1988 and is in dire need of renovation for better efficiency of the space. The clinic incurs 37,000-38,000 patient visits per year and

has consistently for the past six years. The Ardmore Clinic is in need of updating and remodeling for better functionality. The Scope of Work includes redesign of the existing conference room into the Pharmacy including a drive thru window. The existing Pharmacy would be redesigned into three exam rooms and square footage would be added to include a new vestibule and increase the waiting room space. This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget and amends resolution 26-024 for the Ardmore Clinic Renovation, Project Number CNHS-003 in the amount of \$343,200.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Ms. Wanda Blackwood Scott to approve GR26-037.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-037 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 26-038, Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Winstar Golf Course

Increasing the size of the golf course will provide more options for its use. These additional 9 holes will allow more flexibility of Winstar Golf Course to provide additional services to the golfing community and increase the opportunity for future PGA style tournaments to be hosted. These additional tournaments will increase overall profits for the hotel, RV park and all existing and any future Chickasaw Nation support amenities. The development will provide a positive economic impact for the entire local area and the citizens therein.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Ms. Wanda Blackwood Scott to approve GR26-038.

Members voting yes: Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

10 yes votes

Member voting no: Beth Alexander

1 no vote

The motion to approve GR26-038 carried.

Ms. Easterling concluded her report.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

General Resolution Number 26-039, Authorization for Chickasaw Nation Health System to Apply for the U.S. Indian Health Service Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH) 6 Grant

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation Health System (CNHS) to apply for an IHS-NARCH grant. The Chickasaw Nation Health System along with the Cherokee, Choctaw and Creek Nations would partner with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) to conduct tribally driven research projects, and develop the capacity of student and faculty researchers. Since, 2000, the Chickasaw Nation has had a successful and ongoing relationship with OUHSC and the other tribes through past NARCH grants. Award Information: The grant award amount is up to \$800,000 for the total partnership up to four years. Methods: The CNHS would approve prospective research projects through the tribal Institutional Review Board, and collaborate with OUHSC and other tribes to facilitate and complete such projects. The Cherokee Nation will submit the grant for this NARCH cycle. CNHS will obtain funds through a subcontract with the Cherokee Nation.

A motion was made by Ms. McManus and second-

ed by Ms. Barker to approve GR26-039.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-039 carried unanimously.

Ms. McManus concluded her report.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Judy Goforth Parker

Ms. Easterling gave the Land Development Committee Report.

General Resolution Number 26-032, To Replace General Resolution 21-035 (Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Marshall County)

This Resolution replaces General Resolution 21-035 for the purpose of specifically and correctly identifying tracts of land. Property Location: Marshall County, Use: Children's Village, Purpose: Self-determination

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Mr. Tim Colbert to approve GR26-032.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-032 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 26-033, To Replace General Resolution 25-058 (Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Pontotoc County)

This Resolution replaces General Resolution 25-058 for the purpose of specifically and

correctly identifying the complete legal description on property located in Pontotoc County. Use: Kullihoma Expansion, Purpose: Self-determination.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Mr. Tim Colbert to approve GR26-033.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-033 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 26-034, To Replace General Resolution 21-071 (Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Pontotoc County)

This Resolution replaces General Resolution 21-071 for the purpose of specifically and correctly identifying the complete legal description in Pontotoc County. Use: Headquarters Expansion, Purpose: Self-determination.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Mr. Tim Colbert to approve GR26-034.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-034 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 26-035, To Replace General Resolution 25-059 (Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Pontotoc County)

This Resolution replaces General Resolution 25-059 for the purpose of specifically and correctly identifying the complete legal description in Pontotoc

Don Harold Carpenter, Sr.



Don Harold Carpenter, Sr., 76, of Durant, Okla., died May 9, 2009 after a long battle with cancer. Funeral services were May 13, at the First Baptist Church in Durant. Brother James Robinson officiated with former Oklahoma Governor George Nigh speaking.

Mr. Carpenter was born Sept. 20, 1932 at Durant, to Harold Hunter and Hazel Othelia (Potts) Carpenter. He grew up in Durant where his great-grandfather began a furniture and hardware store in the late 1800s. As the business evolved over the years and was passed through the family, it became known as the Carpenter Machine and Supply.

He graduated from Durant High School and enrolled at Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SOSU), at Durant, in 1950. While at SOSU he was involved with many groups and activities, including the band, playing the alto sax and was drum major, the Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity, and the Blue Key Honor Fraternity. After graduating in 1954 with a bachelor of arts degree in business administration, he was drafted into the U.S. Army where he became the drum mayor of the 392nd Army Band stationed at Fort Lee, Va. When he was discharged in April of 1956 he returned to Durant where he went to work in his father's machine shop. Eventually, however, the long hours and tough working conditions convinced him to look at other options. On January 1, 1966, he accepted a position in SOSU's Technology Use Studies Center which was offered to him by University President, Dr. Allen Shearer. He stayed with the TUSC until 1969 when he became the chairman of the Aviation Department. He had been flying most of his life and the Aviation Department was right where he wanted to be. He nev-

er thought he would leave but in 1974 he was offered an opportunity to become involved with a local insurance business and he accepted. After being associated with SOSU as a student and as a faculty member, he had one final opportunity to directly influence the University when he was appointed to the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges in 1984. In 1995 he was selected by the SOSU Alumni Association to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

From his return to Durant in 1956 through the day he died he has not only served the University but was also involved with community events and organizations. For 10 years he served on the School Board of the Durant Public Schools and was the President of the Oklahoma State School Boards Association in 1973. In 1970 he served as president of the Durant Chamber of Commerce, but it is his contributions to the community through his involvement with the Lions Club that invoked his sincerest emotions.

The past few years his greatest companion had been "Missy," his Jack-Russell Terrier and was able to see her the weekend before his death. He enjoyed flying and playing golf. He was a people-person and enjoyed meeting and talking to everyone. His family was the joy of his life and he cherished all the time he was able to spend with them.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents, Eli and Gillie K. Carpenter; and aunt, Mary Carpenter Spiller.

He left to cherish his memory a son, Don H. Carpenter, Jr. and wife Elizabeth, of Ada, Okla.; a daughter, Cindy Newell and husband Mike, of Buena Vista, Colo.; grandsons David Newell, of Edmond, Okla., Chris Carpenter and wife Jessica, of Broken Arrow, Okla., Jeff Carpenter and Daniel Carpenter, both of Ada; a granddaughter, Andrea Newell, of Buena Vista; and his first great-grandson, Cade Carpenter, of Broken Arrow; cherished cousins Joe Foote and wife Jody, of Norman, Okla., and Jack Foote and wife Judy, of Sacramento; as well as many other relatives and friends.

He will be greatly missed by everyone whose life he touched and all his family and friends.

Pallbearers were Bill Trent, Joe Clay, Gordon Wright, David Hughes, John Massey, Ed Mills, Roger Webb, and Glen Johnston.

Honorary pallbearers were Larry Williams, Jim Tyler, and Tom Lackey.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Southeastern Scholarship Foundation 'Carpenter Scholarship', 1405 W4 PMB 4187, 1405 N 4th Ave., Durant, OK 74701-0609, at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Condolences may be left for the family online via Brown's web site at www.brownsfuneralservice.com

Jerry M. Johnston

Jerry M. Johnston, 77, died April 21, 2009 at his home in Springer, Okla. He was born March 4, 1932 to Richard E. (RJ) Johnston and Ella (Cutchie) Johnson at Milo, Okla. Services were April 24, 2009 at the Milo Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Johnston, Rev. Ken Campbell and Rev. Ron Elmore officiating. Interment was in Milo Cemetery, Milo Okla.

He graduated from Graham (OK) High School in May of 1949 where he excelled in football and baseball. He attended college at what is now Oklahoma State University (OSU). He played baseball with several area teams before getting the chance to train with the Cardinals. This was short lived as he was drafted into the U.S. Army where he was sent to Korea during the war.

Mr. Johnston's first love was his family. Being widowed in December 1973, he raised Peggy Sue, Teresa, John and Mike. He attended all ball games, livestock shows, 4-H and FFA events and whatever his children were involved in. Everyone knew he was where his children were. He was an accomplished steer roper, horseman, cattleman and left-handed pitcher. Those who went up against him remembered the "lefty pitcher from Milo" and talked about his fast balls.

In later years he and his buddies spent their time hog hunting, coon hunting and enjoying the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was always proud of his Native American heritage. He always had stories to tell of his aunts, uncles and cousins from Cutchie's Chickasaw background that he was so proud of.

He was preceded in death by his wife Quanna Sue (Rowe) Johnston; brothers, Ike Johnston and Virgil Johnston; and special friend Virginia Russell.

He is survived by his four children, Peggy Johnston, of Springer, Teresa Johnston, of Oklahoma City, John Johnston

and his wife Laura, of Fox, Okla., and Mike Johnston and his wife Shelly, of Ratliff City, Okla.; grandchildren, Justin Johnston, Tanya Stark, Shylar Primrose, Shytana Johnston, Tristin Thompson and Jaden Johnston; step-grandchildren, Tanner and Taylor Britt; great-grandchildren, Jarret Johnston and Braden Stark; brothers, Bill Johnston and his wife Gussie, of Milo, Ralph (Cobo) Johnston and his wife Juanelle, of Ardmore, Okla.; sister Jeannie Goodman and her husband Harvey, of Duncan, Okla.; special friend Barbara Haywood, of Dickson, Okla.; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pallbearers were Calvin Canada, Cody Norman, Danny Thomas, Jimmy Walker, Justin Johnston and Shylar Primrose.

Memorials may be made to Cross Timbers Hospice or Make a Wish Foundation.

Online condolences may be made at www.craddockfuneralhome.com.

Raymond "Tex" Brown



Raymond "Tex" Brown, 66, of Crowley, Texas, died April 20, 2009 at Fort Worth, Texas. Funeral services were April 24, 2009 at Burleson Church of Christ. Interment followed in Caddo Cemetery, Joshua, Texas. Mr. Brown was born Aug. 17, 1942 at Dallas to Cortez and Julie Brown.

He married Joyce Tinar June 19, 1960 at Irving, Texas.

He was an electrician and owner of Tex Brown Electric since 1984. He was a member of Chapel Creek Church, Fort Worth (formerly West Berry Church of Christ). He was very active in his church especially delivering the Lord's Supper to senior citizens and was a former elder of West Berry Church of Christ.

He enjoyed genealogy and was a proud member of the Chickasaw Nation.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Martin Brown.

He is survived by his wife,

Joyce Brown, of Crowley; sons, Carl Brown and wife, Jill, of Crowley, Scott Brown, of Titusville, Fla.; a daughter, Michell Walden, of Crowley; a brother, Virgil Ray Brown and wife, Carla; grandchildren, Chandler, Tyler, Hunter, Connor and Carson; and numerous extended family members.

Verna Gay "Ikey" Newman



Verna Gay "Ikey" Newman died March 5, 2009 at Mercy Hospital surrounded by her loving family. Services were March 10 at the Bill Eisenhower Southeast Chapel, Del City, Okla., with interment in Sunny Lane Cemetery.

Mrs. Newman was born Verna Gay Cole on Dec. 17, 1938 at Oklahoma City, to Earl and Theople Cole. She grew up in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

She earned a degree from Connors State College at Warner, Okla. She was a dedicated and loving wife, mother, sister, friend and proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. She was an accomplished artist and was featured at the recent Red Earth Festival at Oklahoma City.

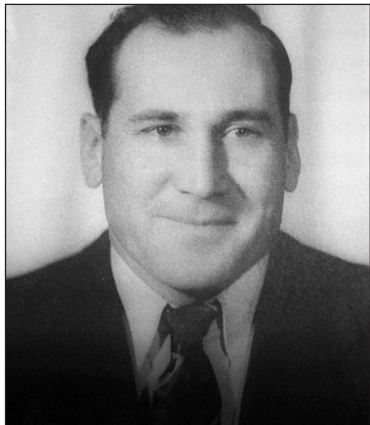
Her commitment and service extended beyond her family. She volunteered with the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and administered the welfare to work program based at Oklahoma State University.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Theople Pugh; and father, Earl Cole.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Newman; sisters, Jeri Floyd and husband, Jim, Martha Shute, Doris Ann Kennedy, Linda Harris, Ginger Stricklin; brothers, Smith and Welch Cole; a daughter, Gay Lynn Studebaker; sons, Steve, John and Lex Townes; and six grandchildren.

Her humor, ingenuity, creativity and her love will be sorely missed.

Paul Theodore Renfro



Paul Theodore Renfro, 91, died April 13, 2009. Services were conducted by Don Grantham Funeral Home, Duncan, Okla. Burial followed in Oaklawn Cemetery, Wynnewood, Okla.

Mr. Renfro was born Jan. 22, 1918 to Samuel and Lottie Bell Daughtry Refro at Mena, Ark.

Mr. Renfro served his country in World War II and was stationed in Europe. He was a motorpool sergeant. After his return he went to work for Mobil Pipeline and remained there until his retirement after 30 years. He lived in Wynnewood for several years after his retirement and there he met his second wife, Lorene V. Moore Renfro and they moved to Duncan.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Bessie Wilson and Marie Davis; three brothers, Marvin Renfro, Leo Renfro and William Renfro.

He is survived by his wife, Lorene; six stepchildren, Gary and Janice Renfro, of Holly Lake Ranch, Texas, Pearl Mathis, of Pauls Valley, Okla., David and Jean Renfro, of Wynnewood, Mary Pickett, of Maysville, Okla., Tom Renfro, of Wilson, Okla., and Jo and Mike Williamson, of Elk City, Okla.; a brother, Benny Joe Renfro, of Duncan; a sister, Bonnie Jean Cavney, of Duncan; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces of the Duncan area.

Howard James Barlow, Jr.

Howard James Barlow, Jr., 67, of Roseburg, Ore., died May 4, 2009. He was born July 1, 1941 at Boles, Ark., to Howard James, Sr., and Pearl (Turner) Barlow. Services were at the South Umpqua Christian Center, Myrtle Creek, Ore.

Mr. Barlow moved to Riddle, Ore., in 1950. He graduated from high school in 1959. Af-

ter high school he attended Oregon Technical Institute in Klamath Falls, Ore., to become a machinist. He later became an electrician while working for Champion Plywood Mill.

He joined the National Guard serving six years during the 1960s and helped during the Roseburg Blast. While in the National Guard he met and married the love of his life Anita Rhoades. They began a family and made Roseburg their home.

He retired from US Plywood Champion and Roseburg Lumber, Dillard, Ore.

He was an avid fisherman and loved spending time on the coast. He also enjoyed car racing.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Anita, of Roseburg; daughters, Susan Getz and husband, Jay, Kelly Bornstedt and her fiancé, Jim Goich, both of Wyoming, and Jody Barlow, of Roseburg; a sister, Mallie Davis and husband, Arnie, of Montana; his loving grandchildren, Michael, Matthew, Olivia, Karli and Erika; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Stella Mae Sandefur



Stella Mae Sandefur, 79, of Madill, Okla., died May 17, 2009 at Marshall County Medical Center, Madill. Services were May 20, 2009 at the First United Methodist Church, Madill with Bob Langston officiating. Interment was in Lebanon Cemetery, Madill.

Mrs. Sandefur was born January 30, 1930 at Bethel, Okla., to the late Mack Griffin and Alli McIlsh Griffin. She grew up in the Bethel and Lebanon areas.

She married Paul Wesley Sandefur on June 11, 1949 at Gainesville, Texas. He preceded her in death Sept. 12, 2000.

She moved to Odessa, Texas in 1951 where she lived for

16 years. In 1967 she moved back to Lebanon and in 2003 she moved to Madill where she lived the rest of her life.

Mrs. Sandefur was a resident of Brookside Nursing Center at Madill for two years. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church at Madill where she sang in the church choir and help with the Logos Program. She loved her church and being around her friends, but her greatest love was being with her children and grandchildren.

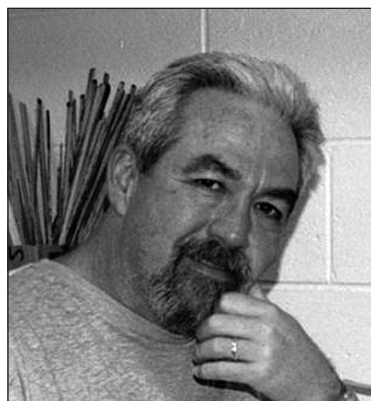
She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; five brothers, Daniel, Jake, Joe, Bill and Bob; four sisters, Francis Robinson, Minnie Neal, Gladys Griffin and Della Daniel.

She is survived by her sons, Timothy and wife, Wanda Sandefur, of Marietta, Okla., Tommy and wife, Deborah Sandefur, of Lebanon, and Ted Sandefur, of Ada; sister-in-law, Peggy Griffin, of Houston; grandchildren, Summer Moore, and Charles and wife, Anita Sandefur, all of Madill, Erika Sandefur, and Joshua Jones, both of Lebanon; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bearers were Randy Rushing, Harold Johnson, Nick Galyean, Ronny Landgraf, Larry Bishop and Hugh Bond.

Condolences can be sent to wattsfuneralhome.com

Bruce Ottoway Walthall, Jr.



Bruce Ottoway Walthall, Jr., (Jake, Jackie) died Dec. 1, 2008 at Tampa, Fla., with his wife, Rebecca and daughters, Nicole and Anna, by his side. A service was conducted at his home at Tampa, with family and friends attending. His ashes will be taken to Arizona to be spread at a later date by his loving wife of 38 years.

Mr. Walthall was born at Saint Joseph Hospital at Phoenix, to Bruce (Jack) O. Walthall and Gloria Jane Walthall Pickerning.

He attended Papago Grade School, Phoenix, and North

Phoenix High School graduating in 1968. He was a loving son, husband and brother.

He was preceded in death by his father; stepfather, Donald Pickering; and half-sisters, Sylvia Wilkie and Aurelea Chandler.

He is also survived by his mother; a sister, Martha R. Minard; a half-brother, Al Chandler (Good Strike); nephews, John Allen and Jim Bruce Weisenhunt; and grandchildren.

Wesley William Witten



Wesley William Witten, II died April 14, 2009, at the home where he was raised in Oklahoma City. He was born November 14, 1953 to Major Wesley William Witten and Eugenie McConnell Witten at Wichita, Kan., where his father was stationed.

His father, a U.S. Air Force officer, was the son of Clara Moore, a Chickasaw, and John Witten, a descendant of Virginia and Oklahoma pioneers. His mother, the late artist Eugenie McConnell Witten, Daughter of Revolution, was the daughter of Nelle McClune and Prof. Ross McConnell of Kittanning Township, Pa.

He spent his childhood years at military bases in Rapid City, S.D., Sacramento, Calif., and Wichita Falls, Texas.

In Oklahoma City he completed his elementary education and studied at John Marshall High School. He lived for a while in Green Mountain Falls, Colo., before returning to Oklahoma to attend Central State University at Edmond. From 1988 to 1996 he lived in Boalsburg, Centre County, Pa., where he was known for his traditional Indian American style bear jaw knives, and for his wood refinishing and cabinet making. He was also proud of his work in painting new

and old residential and commercial houses.

He was a fast and avid reader who self-studied American and World history and shared his knowledge and findings with historians, war veterans and enthusiasts. He was proud of his family heritage and American roots and values.

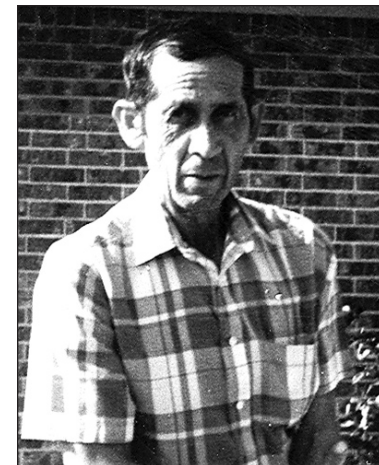
He is survived by his wife Ilana Steinhorn; six first cousins; children of his late uncle Gene Witten: Paula of Bella Vista, Ark., Lance and Stephan of Bentonville, Ark., Suzanne of Wichita, Kan., Todd of Phoenix, and Kevin of Pratt, Kan., and their mother Noreen of Bella Vista; a sister, Eugenie, and her daughter, Whitney, of Oklahoma; and his family of close friends, including Patrick Riley of Oklahoma and Steve Held of Pennsylvania.

Wesley William Witten II was brought to eternal rest with the help of Emanuel Chevra Kadisha and Hahn-Cook Funeral Home in Oklahoma City. He was buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Muskogee, Okla., near 19 of his ancestors including his father and his grandmother.

May his memory be blessed.

Jimmy B. Miller

6/14/1939 – 11/26/2002
Beautiful Memories



Note of Thanks

The family of Charles W. Shields would like to thank friends, neighbors and co-workers for all the food, flowers and condolences delivered in our time of grief. We would like to thank Rev. Donnie Jacobs and his wife for the use of the reception hall and church, Tony Poe for providing the eulogy, and the Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard for their services to a fellow veteran. We would also like to thank Greg and Dana Chilcoat and everyone at Smith's Funeral Home for all their help in coordinating the services.

Laura McKoy Allen Heatley



Laura McKoy Allen Heatley, 87, of Oklahoma City, died Saturday, May 23, 2009.

Her husband, E. Philip Allen, preceded her in death. Later, she remarried and is survived by her husband, E. Robert Heatley.

Mrs. Heatley was born on the family ranch in Stonewall, Okla., Dec. 29, 1921, the youngest of five children, to John H. McKoy and Cecilia Burris McKoy. She was a granddaughter of Colbert Ashalatubby Burris, a leader in the Chickasaw Nation.

She attended the University High School in Norman and the University of Oklahoma, where she received her bachelor of science degree. She then attended Central State University and graduated with a master's degree in school administration and counseling and guidance. She was a teacher and counselor at John Marshall High School and later served as a vice principal in the Oklahoma

City school district

Mrs. Heatley led an active life where age was never a factor in her activities. She was a member of many professional and service organizations, which include the Chi Omega Sorority, Junior League of Oklahoma City, P.E.O. Chapter CK, Twentieth Century Club, Mayfair Dance Club, and The Thursday Book Club. She was an avid Mah Jong player and enjoyed world travel and working in her flower garden.

In her retirement she remained active in tutoring with Whiz Kids and sail boating with her husband Bob as members of the Oklahoma City Boat Club. As a life-long Methodist, she was a member of the Nichols Hills United Methodist Church for approximately 49 years, later transferring her membership to Chapel Hill United Methodist Church where she was a Stephens Minister, and was a devoted greeter at her church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers; and two sisters.

Survivors include her husband, E. Robert, of the home; four children from her previous marriage, Edward P. Allen III and wife Sue, of Stonewall; Cecilia Gosting and husband Don Gosting, of Dallas; John Raybourn Allen and wife Kathy, of Russellville, Ark.; and Gerald Roger Allen and wife Cindy, of Enid, Okla.; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

A memorial celebration of her life was May 28, 2009 at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

No flowers, however, donations may be made in her name to the charity of one's choice.

Bobby Benson

Bobby Benson died March 24, 2009. He was born July 7, 1959 at Fort Worth, Texas.

He was a proud member of the Chickasaw Nation.

At age 7, he and his brother, Benny at age 10, had a brother-in-law serving in the Marine Corps, Lee Mannin, mentioned to them that soldiers in Vietnam needed presweetened Kool-Aid to make the water palatable. The brothers started a Kool-Aid campaign that became very well known as Operation Kool-Aid to the American soldiers serving in Vietnam.

Mr. Benson graduated from Holton High School in 1977. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and completed Naval Submarine School in 1979 serving three years in the U.S. Navy. He returned home, completed trade school, and received combination journeyman local #1247. He was a master floor mechanic. To all that knew him and his work, would call it perfection

He moved his family to the high desert when he was offered a job in 2006 to work on completion of the restoration on the Marine Corps base in Twenty-Nine Palms, better known as Adobe Flats. After that job was completed, he continued working on the base installing VCT in the barracks. He was to return back to work in April 2009 on a new project.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother original enrollee Janie Hardwick; his parents Joe Horace and Alfa Benson; and a brother, Benny Benson.

He is survived by his wife, Georgia Prather; and six children that he chose to call his very own, Michael Prather, Daniel Prather, Curtis Prather, Steven Prather, Kandice Prather, and Briana Prather; family in Texas: a granddaughter, Mariaha Don Prather; brothers, John and Jim Benson; sisters, Sue McClure, Denis McDonald,

and Dr. Jo Seares.

March 30, 2009 over 50 friends and family gathered at Lucky Park to celebrate the loving and amazing life of Bobby Benson.



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Chickasaw Citizen

MINUTES | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45

County.

Use: Kullihoma Expansion, Purpose: Self-determination.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Mr. Tim Colbert to approve GR26-035.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-035 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 26-036, Authorization for Acceptance of Real Property in Love County and Exchange of In-Kind Services

This Resolution approves the acceptance of real property from Thackerville Investment Group, LLC

in Love County. Use: Expansion of the WinStar Golf Course, Purpose: Economic Development.

A motion was made by Ms. Easterling and seconded by Ms. Wanda Blackwood Scott to approve GR26-036.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR26-036 carried unanimously.

Ms. Easterling concluded her report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Wanda Blackwood Scott

No report.

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Mary Jo Green

No report.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Scott Colbert

No report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

Mrs. Alexander gave announcements and Ms. Green congratulated Dr. Goforth Parker on her appointment as hospital administrator.

Comments from citizens were made by Ms. Wilma Watson and Mr. Mike Watson.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Goforth Parker, Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature